

53d CONGRESS, 1st HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 3d MEETING, 1st Session, 1893. No. 121, Part 2.

WITH

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

EDITED BY JOHN A. COOPER, JR.

TWO VOLS. PARTS OF VOLUME XLV. OF THE WAR.

BY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN A. COOPER, JR.,

MAJOR GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

MAJOR GENERAL, U. S. ARMY.

WASHINGTON:

1893.

SERIES I. VOLUME XLV. IN TWO PARTS.

PART II. OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE WAR.

WASHINGTON:

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1893.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1893.



自 治 縣 政 府 公 告 第 一 〇 五 號

一、總論 二、緒論 三、本論 四、結論 五、附錄

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1. 2019年12月31日，公司总资产为1,000,000,000.00元，净资产为500,000,000.00元，营业收入为1,200,000,000.00元，净利润为100,000,000.00元。

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

1. The Government of the United States of America, by and through the Department of State, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th day of March, 1941, in relation to the above-captioned matter.

[illegible]

廣東省立第一中學

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Young Cavalier Shows His Day on the Mustangs

Five Miles from Sachrah, November 1, 1884 - 10 p. m.

The Cavalry Corps will retire in the morning at 10 o'clock on the following order: Fifth Division by the right flank on the baggage paralleled with the pole; Sixth Division by the right flank on the pole; Commanders by gear covering the rear; Seventh Division (Bismarck's baggage) by the left flank paralleled with the pole. The pole will be withdrawn as far as possible in the movement with the command, and will be dropped and on the marchers to cover the movement.

By command of General Major General V. Brown

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Captain and Landing Lieutenant

track in the road cannot well be repaired, will use these trains & Steedman's troops on up from the gap. General Milroy stayed at race last night; his troops three miles beyond. All right here.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General

MURFREESBOROUGH, December 1, 1861—2.15

Major-General THOMAS:

I shall be ready to send back block-house garrisons as far as River so soon as General Steedman's troops shall all pass here. I not do this? They have all been brought off. If I do not hear you when General Steedman passes, I shall send the garrisons. I fear delay may result in the loss of the bridges. Hope you approve; I can recall if you direct it.

L. H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General

NASHVILLE, December 1,

Major-General ROUSSEAU,

Murfreesborough:

Your dispatch of 2.15 p. m. is received. Send back the garrisons to occupy the block houses up to and including Duck River bridge you have arranged for.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding

MURFREESBOROUGH, December 1, 1861—2.15

Major-General THOMAS:

Train and garrison ready to start to occupy the block houses including Duck River bridge. Shall I send them? I suppose General Steedman's coming might prompt a change in your orders as to garrisons.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General

NASHVILLE, (December 1,) 1

Major-General ROUSSEAU,

Murfreesborough:

Yours received. Send back the block-house garrisons as far as River when General Steedman's troops have passed.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Assistant Adjutant-General

MURFREESBOROUGH, December 1, 1861—12.25

Major-General THOMAS:

I have just arrived with the advance trains of my command. The balance of the trains are following closely. I await orders here.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General

[Indorsement.]

Answered, I told him to come on and disembark at junction of North Alabama railroad, the railroad yard being full.

W. D. W.

MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN., *December 1, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

I am detained here on account of the train dispatcher at Nashville being absent from the office, said to be eating dinner.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 1, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. J. B. STEEDMAN,
Murfreesborough:

Come on to this place with your command.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

KNOXVILLE, *December 1, 1864.*

General STEEDMAN:

All quiet in this region. Rumors that enemy is coming down the railroad from Lynchburg not reliable. Telegraph working through by Cumberland Gap. Report is that enemy is on the road between you and Nashville. Which way is he going? What is the news?

STONEMAN,
Major-General.

WARTRACE, *December 1, 1864.*

Major-General STEEDMAN:

I have near 3,000 men camped to-night two miles this side of the bridge, and if you are coming up with a train I will send back a guard of fifty men to the bridge; a less number than that would not be prudent. My men will march at 5 a. m. What time will your train arrive at the bridge?

R. H. MILROY,
Major-General.

WHITESIDE'S, *December 1, 1864.*

Maj. S. B. MOE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, District of the Etowah:

Guerrillas, about seventy-five in number, robbed Mr. Thompson, Government employé, three miles from here, between this place and Shellmound, last night. They started down Sand Mountain. I sent scouts after them this morning; also down the valley to Trenton.

O. C. JOHNSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.

DALTON, December 1, 1864.

Capt. H. A. Ford,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

There is about 300 rebel cavalry and guerrillas hanging around my lines, frequently firing on my pickets. It is also reported that a large force is crossing in from the direction of Rome. I have only five scouts, and they cannot render me much service. I want you to send me some horses or mounted men; my position demands it. My pickets are assaulted by the enemy with impunity, for they know I cannot pursue them. I do not know how much credit to give the report that a force is coming from Rome. If I had some cavalry I could soon inform myself.

J. B. CULVER,
Colonel, Commanding.

KINGSTON SPRINGS, December 1, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Dispatch received.* There was no communication either way last night, and the trains due were so far behind that I thought them captured. Concentrated my regiment this morning at this point. One train is here now; the other will probably be here soon. The One hundredth [U. S. Colored] left Sneedsville, as per orders, this a. m., after trains passed.

W. R. SELDON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Twelfth U. S. Colored.

NASHVILLE, December 1, 1864.

Major-General STONEMAN,
Knoxville:

Your letter of November 26 received.† The major-general commanding approves your suggestions as contained therein.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Assistant Adjutant-General.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., December 1, 1864.

(Via Cumberland Gap.)

Major-General BURBRIDGE:

Your two telegrams of 30th instant [ultimo] received. I sent you a long telegram last night containing one from U. S. Grant; have you received it? My instructions therein contained were based upon the supposition that you would be at Bean's Station. If the Clinch is not easily forded you had better leave your incumbrances on the otherside of the Clinch until you have thoroughly scouted the country toward Kingsport and between the Clinch and the Holston. A demonstration in that direction will almost certainly cause the enemy to fall back to Bristol. Get all the information you can as to what the enemy is doing

to Bristol and beyond. From all I can learn there are not more than 30 of the enemy between the Holston and Clinch. Do not draw any supplies from Cumberland Gap if you can possibly avoid it. Enemy is in the road between Nashville and Chattanooga. Be sure and keep the telegraph line open from Cumberland Gap to Lexington, and look out for the enemy coming down the railroad from Lynchburg; the report is they are coming.

GEORGE STONEMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CLINCH MOUNTAIN, December 1, 1864.

Capt. J. BATES DICKSON:

Two brigades have crossed the Clinch to-day, and my third and last crossing to-night. The river is very rapid and difficult, but we crossed the men and saddles on rafts, and swam the horses. The enemy skirmished with us at Clinch Mountain, but we forced the gap, and occupied Bean's Station this evening. Scouts report Breckinridge at Morristown with 3,000 infantry, and his cavalry at Mossy Creek; others say Breckinridge's infantry has gone to Bristol. We go in the morning to Bean's Station, and will reconnoiter toward Morristown. All well. Plenty of forage here. Command in fine condition, and all in the best of spirits.

JAMES S. BRISHIN,
Colonel.

STANFORD, December 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General McLEAN:

I have just returned from scouting the counties of Henry, Shelby, Nelson, and Washington. Colonel Jesse has from 75 to 150 men; he is stealing horses to mount new recruits upon, and will doubtless endeavor to get through, either by way of Eastern Kentucky or via Burkeville or the Cumberland River.

J. H. BRIDGEWATER,
Captain State Troops.

MEMPHIS, TENN., December 1, 1864.

Col. J. W. NOBLE,

Commanding Second Brigade.

It is reported that there were 1,000 rebels at White's Station this afternoon; keep a sharp lookout in that direction.

B. H. GRIERSON,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, December 2, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,

City Point.

The President feels solicitous about the disposition of General Thomas to lay in fortifications for an indefinite period "until Wilson gets equip-

ments." This looks like the McClellan and Rosecrans strategy of doing nothing and let the rebels raid the country. The President wishes you to consider the matter.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., December 2, 1864—1 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Immediately on receipt of Thomas' dispatch I sent him a dispatch, which no doubt you read as it passed through the office.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., December 2, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Do you not think it advisable to authorize Wilson to press horses and mares in Kentucky to mount his cavalry, giving owners receipts so they can get their pay? It looks as if Forrest will flank around Thomas until Thomas is equal to him in cavalry.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
December 2, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Thomas ought to seize horses and everything else he needs. It has been done heretofore, and he surely cannot be hesitating about it. The officer in command at Louisville should also seize or Thomas send some one to do so for him.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., December 2, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

If you agree with me I would like that Thomas be directed to assign Couch to the command of Kentucky. The reports from there show conclusively that Burbridge should not be retained.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., December 2, 1864—10 p. m.

(Received 10.45 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Is it not possible now to send re-enforcements to Thomas from Hooker's department? If there are new troops, organized State

* For remainder of dispatch, relating to General Rosecrans, see Vol. XII, Part IV, p. 742.

anything that can go, now is the time to annihilate Hood's army. Brannette might put from 5,000 to 10,000 horsemen old to serve only to the end of the campaign. I believe if he is, he would do so.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., December 2, 1864. 11 a. m.
General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

It is permitted to remain quietly about Nashville, you will go round back to Chattanooga, and possibly have to abandon the Tennessee. Should he attack you it is all well, but if not you should attack him before he fortifies. Arm and put on your quartermaster, employees, citizens, &c.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., December 2, 1864. 1.30 p. m.
General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

Our citizen employees arrived, you can move out of Nashville our army and force the enemy to retire or fight upon ground of our choosing. After the repulse of Hood at Franklin, it looks like instead of falling back to Nashville, we should have taken him against the enemy where he was. At this distance, however, as to the best method of dealing with the enemy. You suffer incalculable injury upon your railroads, if Hood is not disposed of. Put forth, therefore, every possible exertion to a end. Should you get him to retreating, give him no peace.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 2, 1864. 10 p. m.
(Received 1.15 a. m. 3d.)

U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

Two telegrams of 11 a. m. and 1.30 p. m. to day are received. At that Hood was whipped at Franklin, I had at this place but 60 men of General Smith's command, which added to the force General Schofield would not have given me more than 25,000 men. General Schofield felt convinced that he could not hold on at Franklin until the 5,000 could reach him. As General cavalry force also numbered only about one-fourth that of I thought it best to draw the troops back to Nashville and arrival of the remainder of General Smith's force, and also a force of 5,000 commanded by Major General Steedman, which I had up from Chattanooga. The division of General Smith yesterday morning, and General Steedman's troops arrived. I now have infantry enough to assume the offensive, if I have cavalry, and will take the field anyhow as soon as the rest of General McCook's division of cavalry reaches here, which

CHATTANOOGA, December 2, 1861.

Col. WILLIAM J. PALMER,
Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Corran, Tenn.:

There is nothing in the way of news here, except the fight at Franklin, Tenn. Hood was whipped, with a loss of 8,000.

SOUTHLARD HOFFMAN,
*Assistant Adjutant General.*QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 2, 1861.Brig. Gen. R. ALLEN,
Chief Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

GENERAL: The following is a copy of a telegram sent to your address yesterday:

Report is made that cavalry horses at Nashville are suffering and breaking down from want of long forage (hay), and that the cavalry inspectors report that the means of transportation are ample. Report the cause and the possible remedy.

CHS. THOMAS,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHS. THOMAS,
*Assistant Quartermaster-General.*LOUISVILLE, December 2, 1861.
(Received 9.15 p. m.)Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

There was no scarcity of hay at Nashville until after the burning of Johnsonville, since which time it has simply been impossible to keep up the supply. We should be congratulated that in the face of this terrible disaster we have met other wants. Horses for a few weeks will not suffer on a full ration of grain, if properly taken care of. Officers shamefully abuse their horses and charge it to hay. Inspecting officers know nothing about the difficulty of procuring hay, and less about the transporting of it. All that was possible to ship has been sent, and no one who understands the circumstances will complain. General Thomas is satisfied.

ROBT. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster

DECEMBER 2, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS:

Sir: General Wood directed me to inform you that the officer he sent to General Kimball had returned, and that he reports that he himself saw what he supposed to be three regiments of infantry pass to our right. At the time he saw them they were moving to the right of the Franklin plke, about half a mile in advance of our picket line, and that when he left they were still moving.

Most respectfully, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE SLAFFER,
Lieutenant, Staff of General Wood.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, 4 HIGGS, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 330.) Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864

VI. Brig. Gen. W. L. Elliott, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the Second Division, Fourth Army Corps,

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, 1 HUGGINS, 3D DIVISION, 4TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 25. Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

L. Capt. E. G. Whitesides, One hundred and Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, is hereby announced as acting assistant adjutant general of this division. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

11. Capt. George Lee, assistant adjutant general of volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty at these headquarters and will report to the commanding general Middle Military Division for assignment to duty in accordance with Special Orders, No. 141, War Department, November 22, 1861.

By order of Hbys. Genl. G. H. Wagners

E. G. WHITESIDES,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS. Third Division, Fourth Army Corps,
 Asheville, Tenn., December 2, 1861.

The undersigned hereby attests and commands of the Third Division.

SAM. BEATTY,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

Major General Thomas A.

Consolidating Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I inclose herewith a copy of a dispatch* from the Adjutant-General of the Army directing me to relieve Major-General Stoneman from duty in my department; also a copy of my reply. I have no competent officer whom I can spare from other service to take command, in East Tennessee at this critical period; therefore, refer the matter to you for such action as you may think proper.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 2, 1864.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:

I have received your dispatch of November 28.* General Burbridge is wrong in saying I had "relieved him from the command assigned by the President." He still commands the District of Kentucky, to which he was assigned according to his brevet rank. He was also authorized, under my direction, to exercise the powers of department commander. I have simply informed him that I do not direct him to exercise any such powers, because I have selected another officer to represent me in my absence. I respectfully submit, that as department commander I have clearly a right so to do. If this is not so, then Brevet Major-General Burbridge is independent of me, and I am only nominally in command of the Department of the Ohio. I shall, of course, obey the honorable Secretary's order at once, although I believe it greatly injurious to the service at this critical time.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
*Major-General.*SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, 1 HQRS. ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 168. Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864.

First Lieut. L. M. Palmer, Battery D, First Ohio Light Artillery, is hereby appointed acting ordnance officer of the army in the field. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
*Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.*HQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Block-house, Casino, December 2, 1864.Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Ohio:

MAJOR: The display of the enemy's force on the south front is such, as reported by the signal officers, that I am extremely anxious to know whether any final determination has been reached as to my position. The brigade commanders of the Fourth Corps near me say no position has as yet been assigned them, and I fear there has been some delay in the transmittal of orders which may embarrass us if the enemy push rapidly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864.Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,
Commanding First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that the enemy having made his appearance in our front, it is desired

* See Part I, p. 1100.

you have strong pickets in your front and your whole line in readiness to take arms at a moment's warning. The fires at the picket lines and on the tops of the hills must be discontinued entirely, and no cooking only allowed in the main line, which must be put out soon as the cooking is done.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HUGHES,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Five Miles from Nashville, on Nashville Pike,
December 2, 1864. 11 a. m.

for General THOMAS,

Commanding Department of the Cumberland;

General Hatch reports from his impression from observations that the army is moving into position toward the western and southwestern corners of Nashville. A large force of the enemy, supposed to be cavalry, has been crossing from the Nashville and Winstead pikes to the Indian pike. This movement has been constant since dark. A considerable force has been ramped on the Winstead pike since just after dark. I have made my arrangements to retire to the position assigned nearer Nashville at 3 a. m. Will report promptly any further information.

J. H. WILSON,

Brigadier Major-General.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY,

Washington, D. C.

SIR: I have the honor to request that Brig. Gen. L. D. Watkins, colonel of the Sixth Regiment Kentucky Cavalry, now commanding the Second [Third] Brigade of the First Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, be assigned to duty according to his brevet rank. General Watkins is a meritorious and competent officer, entitled by continuous and honorable service to this promotion. It is thought that by bestowing such substantial commendation upon officers of acknowledged merit the best interests of the public service may be advanced. The cavalry officers of this military division have not heretofore received the proper reward for their good conduct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brigadier Major-General.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS,
No. 3.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864.

* * * * *

III. The Board of Trade Battery, Captain Robinson, will report for temporary duty to Brigadier-General Croxton, commanding First Brigade, First Division, Cavalry Corps.

IV. The Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry will, without delay, report to Brigadier-General Croxton, commanding First Brigade, First Division Cavalry, for temporary duty with his brigade.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

[CIRCULAR.] HQRS. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864. 9 A. M.

The Cavalry Corps will move to the north bank of the Cumberland, by the railroad bridge, to a camp to be selected by Brigadier-General Johnson. Order of march: First, Sixth Division and Croxton's brigade, of the First Division; second, Fifth Division.

Requisitions for clothing, &c., will be sent in at once, extra shoes fitted, horses will be shod, and all means necessary will be taken for rendering the command efficient.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 3, 1864.

Major-General WILSON, or
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, CAVALRY CORPS:

GENERAL: I respectfully request permission to move my brigade to Edgeland, or where there is ground suitable for camping. If allowed the opportunity, I can, even in forty-eight hours, do much to improve the condition of my command, which has become shattered by long and severe service. I desire also to have two regiments paid that have drawn no pay for twelve months. For more than three months my command has been upon the most arduous service, separated from its transportation and baggage, and needs rest, and must have it. I ask it at this time because I believe it can be granted with less inconvenience than hereafter. In the event you do not feel authorized to grant my request, I ask that you forward this with your approval to General Thomas by special courier.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. CROXTON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HQRS. 2d BRIG., 1st DIV., CAV. CORPS,
No. 5. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Louisville, Ky., December 3, 1864.

This command will march at 8 a. m. on Saturday, the 3d instant. Three days' rations will be carried in the haversacks. The cartridge-boxes will be filled. No struggling will be permitted. Orderlies who may be necessitated to fall out of ranks will be furnished with permanent passes, approved at these headquarters before marching. No officer will lodge in a house, except by order of regimental surgeons, approved at these headquarters. Only the amount of baggage allowed

by regulations to cavalry in the field will be carried, and the inspector will be ordered to see that any excess is destroyed. Any enlisted man found riding his horse faster than a walk without proper authority will be dismounted and compelled to make the march on foot. Any soldier found attempting to run the guard or absenting himself from camp without proper authority will be tied behind the wagons for the entire march. This order will be read to each company at retreat this evening and at reveille to-morrow morning.

By order of Col. O. H. La Grange:

DAN. B. MOULTON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps:

Send the regiment of your command which is in the most effective condition ten miles down the river, with directions to picket the right flank. The regiment will take post about ten miles down, picketing the river above and below. It is not expected to defend the crossing of the river, if the enemy attempt it in force, but merely to observe his movements.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HQRS. SIXTH DIVISION, CAV. CORPS,
No. 2. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Franklin, Tenn., December 2, 1864.

The Fifth Iowa Cavalry, Maj. J. Morris Young commanding, and the Seventh Ohio Cavalry, Colonel Garrard commanding, are hereby temporarily assigned to the First Brigade, and until further orders will report and do duty accordingly.

By command of Brigadier-General Johnson:

E. T. WELLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. HAMMOND:

You will move your command, with as little delay as possible, to the vicinity of Gallatin Ford, select a good camp in that vicinity, cover the ford, and watch the river above and below it. Rest your command, and put it in the best possible condition for service. You are not expected to defend the crossing of the river; should the enemy attempt it in force, give timely notice of his movements.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SEVENTH DIVISION,
Edgefield, December 2, 1864.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Your order to march was received a few minutes since. I suppose, of course, you want me to get there as soon as possible. Our horses are very much tired, and have had nothing to eat since yesterday evening. It is now 12 m., and I think that by the time the horses and men are fed and the horses well cleaned and rested, it will be near night. Every exertion is being made to prepare, but men and officers are tired and sluggish. Gallatin Ford is, I suppose, Gallatin Ferry, as a boat is used in crossing at all times of the year. Shall I destroy all boats in reach? I require fifty horses very much, and will feel obliged if you will order them to be given me. The quartermaster will do all he can to give them to me. I can fit out, I suppose, as well at Gallatin as here. My command requires more carbines, ammunition, and boots; these things, a day's rest, and some shoeing will make me all right. While I am writing the teams come in sight with forage and rations; I can, therefore, get away before dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Will you please return answer by bearer as to whether I am mistaken as to the crossing, *i. e.*, the crossing two miles and a half from Gallatin, on the Cumberland River. Blacksmiths are at work.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brigadier-General.

CHATTANOOGA, December 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Have you any news from Hood to-day?

J. M. BRANNAN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

NASHVILLE, December 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. M. BRANNAN,
Chattanooga:

The enemy has developed his lines a little more to-day, and advanced his skirmish lines about 500 yards. Some skirmishing has taken place and artillery firing on our side. Rebel battery at Harpeth Shoals stops boats. General Elliott assigned to command of Second Division, Fourth Corps.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

CHATTANOOGA, December 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Your dispatch received. Send me some more news.

J. M. BRANNAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF MURFREESBOROUGH,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., December 2, 1861.

nt. JOHN DEUBLE,
115th Ohio Volunteers:

AR: Major-General Rousseau directs that you take up the garrisons
 Christiana and Posterville, and move with them to garrison Normandy
 Duck Creek. Trestle block houses; the latter beyond Tullahoma.
 I will take with you your supplies of rations and ammunition, and
 telegraph operator at Posterville or Christiana, who will remain at
 our headquarters. Move down to the places indicated, on the train,
 ing this dispatch, as promptly as possible, and after getting located
 d the train to this place. If the block-houses are unfinished, put
 in in as good shape as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. OTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CLARKSVILLE, *December 2, 1861.*

g. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A transport with troops passed up last night.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, *December 2, 1861.*
 (Received 3 p. m.)

igadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Two transports have just passed up with troops.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

KNOXVILLE, *December 2, 1861.*

neral WHIPPLE:

Please inform me of the condition of things. A thousand rumors are
 and, and I hardly know how to act. The operator says he has news,
 it is contraband. Your telegram of yesterday is received. All quiet
 out here.

GEORGE STONEMAN,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 2, 1861.*
 (Received 10.15 p. m.)

Major-General STONEMAN,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

The enemy attacked our forces at Franklin with two corps about 4
 o'clock on the 30th ultimo. The attack was most persistent and the
 fighting on both sides desperate. Rebels were repulsed with heavy
 loss, 4,000. We captured about 600 prisoners and a large number of

flags. Our forces then came into Nashville, and are now in line of battle with rebel army confronting them; battle will come off as soon as Hood wishes.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier General.

LINCOLN, KY., December 2, 1864.

(Received 2 p. m.)

Maj. THOMAS T. EOREBT,
Washington, D. C.

We have news from Burbridge this morning. Our forces at Clinch Mountain. Slight skirmish with enemy yesterday. Scout reports Breckinridge at Murrinstown with 3,000 infantry; his cavalry at Bristol. Our forces expected to beat Brant's Station today. Shall I report daily?

CAREY,
Cipher Operator.

CAMP NELSON, December 2, 1864.

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have just received a letter from a most reliable Union man in Washington County, giving an account of the most brutal outrages committed by a gang of guerrillas upon the people in that county. They have killed in a few days past some fourteen quiet, inoffensive citizens, among them one discharged soldier. I have now 150 of the Thirteenth Kentucky Cavalry, sent back by General Burbridge. If there [are] no orders for them to move, I respectfully request that I be allowed to send a portion of them in that region to catch these scoundrels, and then afford these people (the most of whom I know to be loyal) some relief.

S. M. FRY,
Brigadier General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
December 2, 1864—10 A. M.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Couch is not a good administrative officer for Kentucky; I would prefer Stoneman to him. The President would like to see the reports about Burbridge to which you refer. There is no disposition to retain him if there be any well-grounded complaints, but if the military authority is surrendered to a sympathizer with Brantlette, Doctor Breckinridge says it will be necessary to conquer Kentucky.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, December 2, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.

Every available man from Hooker's and other western departments have been sent to General Thomas. Hooker is already calling for more troops to be sent to him, to guard his prisoners, and General Fry is

getting all he can from the hospitals. Thomas was authorized some time ago to call on the Governors of any Western State for militia, if he wanted them. He himself says that no more troops should be sent from Kentucky. Loyal Kentuckians say that if Bramlette's militia are armed, a large portion of them will join the rebels. All cavalry horses that could be procured in the Western States have been sent to Nashville, to the entire neglect of other departments. I believe that every possible effort has been made to supply General Thomas' demands and wants, so far as the means at the disposition of the Government permitted. General A. J. Smith's command was thirty-one days, after General Rosecrans received the orders, in reaching Nashville.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

DECEMBER 3, 1864. For Grant to Sherman, referring to operations of Thomas' and Hood's armies, see Vol. XLIV, p. 614.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 3, 1864.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War, Washington, D. C. :

I have the honor to respectfully forward the following recommendation for the promotion of Col. Thomas J. Harrison to brigadier-general by brevet, warmly approving the same and recommending his immediate appointment, for previous gallant and honorable service in this army:

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 2, 1864.*

Major-General THOMAS:

Please ask the appointment by brevet of Col. Thomas J. Harrison, Eighth Indiana Cavalry. He is worthy and highly merits the promotion.

Yours, respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.
TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 3, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy made no demonstration to-day, except to advance his pickets about 300 yards on the Nolensville, Franklin, and Hillsborough pikes. I have a good intrenched line on the hills around Nashville, and hope to be able to report 10,000 cavalry mounted and equipped in less than a week, when I shall feel able to march against Hood. I gave the order for the impressment of horses last night, and received the authority of the Secretary of War this morning.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 3, 1864. 10.30 p. m.

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

General Thomas has made every preparation for receiving and repelling an attack early to-morrow. Our earth works reach from the Cumberland on the right to the Cumberland on the left, distant about two miles from Capitol, average distance, forming nearly half circle, with second line in weak places; it is a very strong line and strongly held—the Sixteenth Corps on right, Twenty-third in center, and Fourth on left. Some skirmishing has occurred to day, and, upon a rebel column showing in the fields, near Franklin road, our artillery opened with shell and sent them to cover. Nothing heard from Forrest, but General Wilson is looking after him, and no apprehension is felt. No telegraph south from Nashville, of course; but we communicate with Chattanooga by the way of Cumberland Gap and Knoxville. All quiet there.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS,) HEDGES, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 331,) Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

III. So much of special field orders of November 27, 1864, from these headquarters, as assigns the following named regiments to the Fourth and Twenty-third Army Corps is hereby revoked, and the commanding officers of the respective regiments will report without delay for duty to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith: Fortieth Missouri Volunteer Infantry and Tenth Kansas Volunteer Infantry, to Fourth Army Corps, Forty-fourth and Forty-second Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Twenty-third Army Corps.

V. The One hundred and eighty-second Ohio Volunteers is hereby assigned to the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps, and will relieve the One hundred and seventy-third Ohio Volunteers from duty with Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps. Upon being relieved, the One hundred and seventy-third Ohio Infantry will report to Major-General Rousseau for assignment to duty in that division.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

The undersigned hereby assumes command of the Fourth Corps.
TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report for the information of the commanding general of the forces that I have examined the entire line of defense occupied by my command, and can report it in a very defensible state now, and in a few hours more I think it will be impregnable. I will keep the men employed till the work is completed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CIRCULAR, }
No. 22. }

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, December 3, 1864—6 p. m.

Division commanders will have reveille at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow. At the earliest appearance of daylight the troops must be under arms; at 5.30 a. m. division officers of the day and picket officers must be on the line to see that all is right. Division commanders will promptly report any movement of the enemy that may be discerned to-morrow morning.

By command of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General BEATTY,
Commanding Third Division:

The general commanding directs that you relieve the Fortieth Regiment Missouri Infantry and Tenth Kansas Infantry, at daylight to-morrow morning, from duty with your division, and order them to report to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith. This in accordance with orders received from headquarters Department of the Cumberland.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. SINCLAIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, 23D ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

Capt. THEO. COX,
Asst. Adj. Gen., Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with instructions, I would respectfully state that there was no estimate of the prisoners taken on the 30th ultimo; they were ordered to the rear as soon as received in our lines. There were no arms captured, all being left on the field.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. REILLY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 3, 1864.Maj. Gen. A. J. SMITH,
Commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: The front occupied by General Wood's corps is quite long and as much extended as the number of his troops will admit. The withdrawal of the Fortieth Missouri and Tenth Kansas Regiments, already in line, will leave a gap which he has not the power to fill, except by contracting his line, without causing it to become much attenuated. In consequence of this state of things, the major general commanding directs that you occupy a portion of General Wood's line equal to the front of two regiments, as being the only method which occurs to him of remedying the difficulty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHITTLE,
*Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.*HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.Maj. W. P. CHAMBLISS,
Special Inspector of Cavalry:

MAJOR: I send Captain Van Antwerp, aide de camp, with the orders directing the seizure of every species of property necessary to put the cavalry forces of this division into efficient condition. You will perceive that the authority is ample; use it without stint for seizure both of equipments and horses. You may send Captain Van Antwerp to hunt for arms and other property consigned to you. With the authority in his hands I think he can do good service. I leave many of the details to you, in pursuance of General Thomas' general instructions, confident that you will do all in your power to push matters to the utmost. Spare nothing which is necessary, but have everything done in an orderly manner.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
*Brevet Major-General.*SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 27. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

11. Brig. Gen. L. D. Watkins, temporarily assigned to the command of the mounted and dismounted men of Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, at Nashville, per paragraph 111, Special Orders No. 23, from these headquarters, of date November 29, 1864, is hereby relieved from this duty, and will assume command of his brigade.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:
E. B. BRAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 5. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1861.

I. By authority of the Secretary of War, sufficient serviceable cavalry horses will be immediately seized to mount all dismounted men of the Cavalry Corps.

II. Division commanders will make the necessary details to carry this order into effect. They are authorized to send detachments to any part of Tennessee and Kentucky, under the command of trustworthy and competent officers, who will give memorandum receipts for all horses taken. Upon the presentation of the memorandum receipts to the division or corps quartermaster, the proper vouchers will be issued. The price allowed will be that fixed by the Cavalry Bureau. Horses and mares will be taken. The names of the officers detailed must be sent at once to these headquarters.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 3, 1861.

In order to facilitate the pressing of horses, and that there may be no collision between the details organized under General Orders, No. 5, from these headquarters, division commanders will instruct the officers sent in command of the details from their respective divisions to confine their operations strictly to the districts of country assigned them below, viz: The Sixth Division, Brigadier-General Johnson commanding, will have that portion of country lying west of the Springfield and Russellville turnpike, and will send as far north as Hopkinsville, Ky.; the First Division, Brigadier-General Croxton commanding, will have that portion of the country lying east of the Russellville turnpike and west of the Bowling Green turnpike, and will send as far north as the railroad from Bowling Green to Russellville; the Seventh Division, Brigadier-General Knipe commanding, will have that portion of the country lying between the Bowling Green and Glasgow roads, sending as far north as the road from Bowling Green to Glasgow; the Fifth Division, Brigadier-General Hatch commanding, will have all the country lying east of the Glasgow road, sending as far as Tompkinsville.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CROXTON,

Comdg. First and Second Brigades, First Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: You will please send one regiment out on the Franklin pike to-day at 10 a. m. to make a reconnaissance; having accomplished this duty, you will return to camp.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HQRS. 2D BRIG., 1ST DIV., CAV. CORPS,
 No. 7. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 } Nashville, Ky., December 3, 1864.

This command will march at 8 a. m. to-morrow on the Shepherdsville pike, in the following order: First Wisconsin Cavalry, Second Indiana Cavalry, Fourth Indiana Cavalry. No passes will be given in the morning, and the men must be kept in camp. The orders issued yesterday will be enforced.

By command of Col. O. H. La Grange:

HAN. S. MOULTON,
 Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Eli Long,
 Comdg. Second Div., Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: This and an order for the seizure of every species of property necessary to put your command in an efficient condition will be handed you by Captain Van Andwerp, aide de camp. In executing this order, confer freely with Major Chambliss, to whom ample instructions have been sent. In sending out details, select good judges of horses, and require them to use the form of receipt here with inclosed; * have them printed, and send the bill to Captain Carbug, chief quartermaster Cavalry Corps. I cannot impress it too strongly upon you to use your utmost exertions in carrying out this order. If you should not be able to procure arms enough for your entire command by the time horses and equipments are seized, leave the unarmed portion under command of proper officers, to come forward as soon as arms are supplied. Report to me at once and from time to time when you can be here.

I am, general, your obedient servant.

J. H. WILSON,
 Direct Major General.

SAINT LOUIS, Mo., December 3, 1864.

Major-General WILSON:

Cannot leave Saint Louis before 7th instant; have marched 1,800 miles; command was broken down; did not get a horse to Saint Louis; obtained 1,100 horses here, and other equipments. Colonel Winslow's detachment will leave Memphis on 6th instant.

F. W. BENTEN,
 Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
 Near Hyde's Ferry, December 3, 1864—12 m.

Capt. W. B. SMITH,
 Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., Sixth Div., Cavalry Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I stopped the ferry boat communications at Buena Vista and Hyde's Ferry, by detaching the

ts from the floats and tying up the boats, under guard, on this bank, and companies are on duty scouting and picketing in rear of each of the ferries, and the remainder of the companies near the ferries. Scouts being made down the country, out on the road leading back from Hyde's Ferry. Their reports will be forwarded.

Very respectfully,

ISRAEL GARRARD,
Colonel Seventh Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Hyde's Ferry, December 3, 1861—8 p. m.

J. W. B. SMITH,

Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., First Brig., Sixth Div., Cavalry Corps:

APTAIN: I have the honor to report that the scout made down to a point below Bell's Mill, where the bend of the river comes back to the turnpike, as shown on the map given me, reports a few rebel ablymen on this side of the river, having swum their horses over; e were seen. The naval supply steam boat was fired into from the fls between here and Bell's Mill, struck several times, but ran past t battery, but finding another battery below, ran into this shore and up. The captain of the boat has come up here to get the gun boat g here to assist him, and has reported these facts. The boat lies at eight miles from here. I have had no instructions or orders but to p the ferries and tie up the boats on this side of the river. I d like to have such instructions as would guide me in the nature extent of the scouting to be done by me. Up to this time the gun- t has not gone down to render assistance to the naval supply boat, is, I understand, waiting for orders. The crew of the boat are with it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISRAEL GARRARD,
Colonel Seventh Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.

GALLATIN ROAD, NEAR CUMBERLAND RIVER,
December 3, 1861.

J. B. BEAUFONT,

Assistant Adjutant General, Cavalry Corps, Nashville, Tenn.:

AFOR: Am here in good shape. Just before leaving Edgefield, at m. of the 2d, the battalion which was at Petersburg [was] chased within three miles of Nashville on the Murfreesborough pike. I d like to furnish my command and fit it for field service here, re there are good facilities for it. I can get horses, forage, and, ad, everything save arms and ammunition. There are some 2,000 valoscent horses around the town; the guerrillas steal large num- of them. They seem to be concentrating hereabout, as several es of 75 and 100 are known to exist. I will try to disperse some of n. I find that I cannot send less than fifty men three miles from n. A large drove of beoves was scattered yesterday at the tun- and day before 200 horses taken from a corral. I believe that e small bodies are preparing to join Forrest for some move, sure. ying evil exists in the fact that almost every citizen, without

him as he thinks best qualified for command, by any other word duties in connection with the force contemplated.

VI. The force commanded by Colonel McCook will be known as the Civic Guard of Chattanooga.

VII. This order of enrollment and organization comprehends only all the civilians who may be permanently resident at this post but all civilians who may be temporarily detained here, whether in business or pleasure, or owing to obstructions on the road.

VIII. Colonel McCook will have every facility afforded him for the proper arming and equipment of the Civic Guard, and will determine, subject to the approval of the general commanding, the signal for the assembling of his command on any sudden emergency.

IX. Every civilian enrolled in the Civic Guard of Chattanooga will be furnished by Colonel McCook with a printed certificate of enrollment. The post provost guards on and after Thursday, the fifth day of December, will demand, in addition to the usual city pass, the said certificate of enrollment.

X. Any civilian hereby ordered to register and enroll himself in the Civic Guard failing to procure, or to produce on proper demand, the said certificate of enrollment, will be arrested on the spot and handed over to the provost marshal.

XI. Should the party or parties so arrested fail satisfactorily to explain the circumstances of their not having, or their not producing, the said certificate of enrollment, said party or parties will immediately be sent by the post provost marshal to work for thirty days on the streets or fortifications.

By order of Brigadier-General Meagher:

H. A. FORD,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

CLEVELAND, TENN., December 1, 1864.

Capt. H. A. Ford,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General:

I have sent reconnoitering parties on three of the most important approaches from the south and west, and taken all possible precaution toward the protection of this place. At Tyler's Station I have 200 men and two pieces of artillery; they have a good earth work, and can without doubt hold it.

H. BOUGHTON,
Colonel.

CLEVELAND, December 2, 1864.

Capt. H. A. Ford,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General:

One of the patrols I sent out this afternoon has just returned, and reports that a party of rebel cavalry, about eighty strong, crossed the Cleveland and Dalton Railroad at Red Clay before daylight this morning, going in the direction of Ooltewah. Shortly after daylight they returned, recrossed at Red Clay, and passed south. Nothing has been heard of them since that time.

HORACE BOUGHTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

DALTON, December 3, 1864.

Capt. H. A. FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

My picket-lines are attacked. The enemy has sent in a flag of truce. I will not surrender.

J. B. GULYER,
Colonel, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The steamer Kentucky, with three companies of Nineteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry and 170 infantry, has returned, not being able to pass a battery near Harpeth Shoals. A courier has just arrived with dispatches from Colonel Thompson, from Johnsonville, that his force will reach here to-morrow afternoon. A courier says that he could not reach General Cooper, at Centerville.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

DANVILLE, December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. S. FRY:

Mr. John Perry has just reached here direct from his home, three miles east of Perryville; he met a party of twenty-five or thirty guerrillas near his house, was pursued and fired upon by them, but escaped. The guerrillas were moving toward Harrodsburg on the pike between Perryville and that place. Can you send a squad of fifteen or twenty mounted men here to night? Telegraph line has just been cut between here and Lebanon. Please reply.

W. L. GROSS,
Captain and Assistant Superintendent.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS,
Springfield, Ill., December 3, 1864.

Capt. C. H. POTTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Northern Department:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report* of Col. B. J. Sweet, Eighth Regiment Veteran Reserve Corps, commanding post of Chicago, in regard to the late attempted insurrection at that place and the release of the prisoners of war at Camp Douglas by rebel officers and the treasonable order known as the Sons of Liberty. That it was their plan to release all the prisoners of war in this State and Indiana and burn and pillage the country (if successful at Chicago), there is no room for doubt. This order of Sons of Liberty exists in

* See November 23, Part I, p. 1077.

afterward by negotiation. I am determined that security and tranquillity shall prevail along the border while I exercise command of this department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, December 3, 1864.

Major LUDINGTON,
Lexington:
Your plan approved.*

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

NASHVILLE, *December 4, 1864—10 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Last night the enemy planted a battery on the river at Bell's Landing and succeeded in capturing two boats on their way down. As soon as it was reported, at my request, Commander Fitch, U. S. Navy, went down with an iron-clad and two or three gun-boats and soon drove the battery away, recapturing the two steamers. He will make a reconnaissance in force down the river to-morrow. The enemy remains in the same position to-day as yesterday. I have also heard from Tullahoma, via Knoxville, to-day; the railroad is uninjured that far, and no signs of the enemy in that neighborhood; I have heard no firing in the direction of Murfreesborough, and therefore infer that the enemy has made no move in that direction yet, but is now turning his attention to crossing the river below; for any such attempt I am prepared to meet.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 4, 1864.

Lt. Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND:

Major-General Schofield informs me that Major-General Stoneman is, by order of the Secretary of War, been relieved from duty in the Department of the Ohio. I respectfully request that the order may be countermanded, as General Schofield has no other general officer to whom he can intrust the affairs of East Tennessee with as much safety as General Stoneman.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

* See November 29, Part I, p. 1165.

MOUND CITY, ILL., December 3 [12], 1861—5 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your confidential dispatch of 11 o'clock yesterday just received. Accept my heartiest thanks for the information given and correction made. I have had night and Sunday work done to get another good iron-clad ready. Hope to see you in a few days. Please instruct operators always to hand you a copy of my dispatches to my officers operating near you. Wishing you the fullest success,

Faithfully, yours,

S. P. LEE.

U. S. STEAMER MOORE,
Off Nashville, Tenn., December 4, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS,

Comdg. Army of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: The enemy has heavy batteries on the river at Bell's Mills. I went down last night and engaged them, and had them silenced for a time. Two of my boats passed below them, and are still down the river. It was too dark for us to continue the engagement successfully, there being danger of getting our boats foul and unmanageable. I am going with the other iron-clad to make a reconnaissance in force this morning. From the force that we found last night, the appearance of the batteries, the great number of camp fires, &c., I am led to believe that Hood's left rests on the river at that point, and that Forrest commands them. Will you please telegraph to Clarksville forbidding steamers coming above that place, and also allow none to leave Nashville far down the river until the batteries are removed. The enemy seems to have a heavy force at this end of his line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LE ROY FITCH,
Lieut. Commander, Comdg. 9th and 10th Dists., Miss. Squadron.

U. S. STEAMER MOORE,
Cumberland River, December 4, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS,

Comdg. Army of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: I have cleaned out the rebel battery and recaptured the two steamers captured by the enemy last night, and driven their left flank back from the river at that point, though I do not think it safe for transports to run yet from Clarksville up. I think Forrest commands the left of Hood's army, as General Buford's brigade engaged us last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LE ROY FITCH,
Lieut. Commander, Comdg. 9th and 10th Dists., Miss. Squadron.

U. S. STEAMER MOORE,
Off Nashville, December 4, 1861.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Comdg. the Army of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: Your kind note* of this evening is received. I perceive you are under a slight error in regard to the position of the battery

* Not found.

gaged. The battery we engaged last night was not at Harbottle's Landing, but at Bell's Mills. It is about thirty-five miles from here while it is only four miles to Bell's Mills—that is, four miles by land, but eighteen by river. The river makes a large bend early back to the city. Bell's Landing is in this bend, at a point close to the city. I would have gone down to Harpeth I heard firing in this direction and thought, perhaps, there was a general attack, and that my boats might be able to assist in the fight. The heavy boats are so slow that I would not have been able to reach here again until to-morrow afternoon. I will make a reconnaissance down there as soon as possible, and will just as soon as I know the river to be clear. I will then try to get a regular convoy, but at present, owing to the position of the boats and the crookedness of the river, it would be best for us to give the rebels the least chance to disable or capture any of our boats.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. E. ROY FITCH,

1st Lieutenant, Company, 2nd and 10th Dist., Miss. Squadron.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 1, 1864.

W. D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff.

Sir: The following copy of a telegram just received is respectfully forwarded you for the information of the major general commanding:

CLARKSVILLE, December 3, 1864.

It is reported that Colonel Thompson, in command of forces from the Railroad, will arrive to-morrow.

J. V. WILLIAMS,

Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. F. RUSLING,

Captain and Assistant Quartermaster,
Acting Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 1, 1864—10 p. m.

REPORT:

of special importance since last report. The enemy has been driven from his lines and thrown up works. Our artillery has been used to silence his movements, and the rebels have been feebly silenced. At nearest point the rebel skirmish line is about 100 yards from our main works. Citizens and negroes have been ordered to complete the intrenchments, which are now very strong. The work is being done slowly. Large number of tin clads and one heavy iron-plate boat here. All quiet at Chattanooga, Dalton, and Tullahoma. J. Forrest.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENN.,

No. 273. }

Louisville, Ky., December 1, 1861.

I, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, having reported to these headquarters on expiration of his leave of absence, and being unable to join his command on account of the present movement of the army, has permission, at his own request, to visit City Point, Va.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

WM. T. CLARK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,

Nashville, Tenn., December 1, 1861.

Colonel MAXWELL,

Comd'g, Twenty-sixth Kentucky Infantry, Bowling Green, Ky.:

Come forward at once with your regiment, by rail, to this city and report at these headquarters. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

By order of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BOWLING GREEN, *December 1, 1861.*

General SCHOFIELD:

The Twenty-sixth Kentucky is ordered from this post to Nashville, which leaves this post almost without troops. Can the Twenty-sixth Kentucky remain here?

J. H. GRIDER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Edgelyield, December 1, 1861—to p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

General Hammond reports a force of rebel cavalry at Lebanon, but no evidence of an intention to move to Gallatin further than that indicated by their position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Nashville, Tenn., December 1, 1861.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY,

Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to recommend and request the appointment of the following officers upon the staff of the Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

Maj. E. B. Beaumont, assistant adjutant-general, to be assistant adjutant-general, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel; First Lieut.

ten, Second U. S. Cavalry, to be assistant inspector-general, with the rank of lieutenant colonel; Capt. Elias H. Carling, quartermaster, to be chief quartermaster, with the rank of colonel; Capt. J. C. Read, commissary of subsistence of vol., to be chief commissary of subsistence, with the rank of lieutenant colonel, to date from December 1, 1861. These appointments, in the case of the last, should be made to date from the 24th of July, the officers having performed their duties since that

date. I request that First Lieut. John S. Andrews, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, may be appointed as an aide de camp on my personal staff, with the rank of major, to date from October 1, the date of my appointment as a major-general by brevet. I hope the full staff may be able to assist my command to extensive and demands all the activity of the officers are capable of giving.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 1, 1861.

H. HENNING,
Lieutenant, Fourth U. S. Cavalry:

General Wilson directs that you report to him with the Fourth U. S. Cavalry, at an early hour to-morrow, at his headquarters.

Very respectfully,
J. H. WILSON.

E. B. REAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 1, 1861.

E. B. REAUMONT,
Adjutant-General:

The First Cavalry Division, marching for Nashville

O. H. LA GRANGE,
Colonel, Commanding.

EASTERN SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Camp near Louisville, Ky., December 1, 1861.

J. H. WILSON,
Major, Fourth U. S. Cavalry:

I have received your two dispatches of this date. Will consult with the adjutant, who will be in town to-morrow, and will probably be able to give you the most of the horses in Louisville on the 7th and 8th. I will also give you a statement of how the command is armed. Shall I arm the regiments with muskets or anything I can get? They have now on hand

here nearly enough, and before I get the requisite number of horses will probably have quite enough horse equipments to fit out the command. I will get my headquarters and the cavalry brigade off as soon as I possibly can after receiving an answer to this from you, and will leave Miller to come along with his brigade as soon as he can. There are 1,600 horses here for use in the Government stables, and the Fourth Michigan takes 800 of them to-morrow. While I individually am disposed to do all that I can to get the division in the field, and to the assistance of the command at Nashville as soon as possible, and have no desire to keep it here, as it is doing no earthly good to itself or any one else here, still I think that although we might assist in relieving the temporary pressure by hurrying into the field poorly armed and equipped (though probably not sufficiently to affect the ultimate result), that the material and permanent interests of the service would not be as beneficially affected as if we were allowed to remain here and get into proper shape before entering the field.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELI LONG.

Brigadier-General, U. S. Vols., Command, Second Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HATCH,
Commanding Fifth Division, Cavalry Corps.

GENERAL: The brevet major general commanding directs me to say that he has used every exertion to stop the straggling, plundering, and stealing from the citizens in this vicinity by the soldiers of this command; as yet, however, it has been unavailing. He therefore directs that you order a detail of 300 men, under an efficient field officer, to report at once at these headquarters, for the purpose of establishing a line of sentinels in front of this camp. He desires you to have a roll-call at once, and punish severely all men absent without proper authority.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

(Same to Brig. Gen. R. W. Johnson, commanding Sixth Division, and
Brig. Gen. J. F. Kupe, commanding Seventh Division.)

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 4, 1864.

Maj. B. B. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.

MAJOR: The officer who commanded the reconnaissance sent to investigate the reported crossing of the enemy at Bell's Mills, reports that he has visited the place of the alleged crossing, and finds no enemy there; that they captured two boats there, or near there, last evening and commenced unloading them; that our gun-boats coming up abated the enemy, drove them off, reloaded the boats, and brought them away.

The enemy's pickets are visible on the opposite side of the [river], but no considerable force has been seen by the citizens in the vicinity, and there is nothing to indicate the presence of any.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HQRS. SIXTH DIVISION, CAV. CORPS,
No. 3. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISS.,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 1, 1864.

The following officers are announced as the staff of this division: Capt. E. T. Wells, assistant adjutant-general; Surg. Isaac Train, Seventh Ohio Cavalry, chief surgeon; First Lieut. L. T. Morris, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, aide de camp; First Lieut. W. R. Lowe, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, aide de camp; Capt. T. F. Allen, Seventh Ohio Cavalry, inspector; Capt. E. D. Baker, assistant quartermaster; Capt. Samuel C. Glover, commissary of subsistence; Capt. John J. Kessler, Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteers, provost-marshal; First Lieut. D. W. Fisher, Seventh Ohio Cavalry, ambulance director; First Lieut. R. A. McKee, Fifth Iowa Cavalry, ordnance officer. Those of the officers above named not now upon duty will report in person without delay.

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SEVENTH DIVISION,
Gallatin Road, December 1, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

MAJOR: I learn that there is a heavy force of the enemy's cavalry in Lebanon; they came there last night. I have all the crossings picketed to Hartsville up and Bender's Ferry below this. My scouts cross the river to night regularly organized, and with the means of communicating with me. I have 375 men out, in three parties, pressing horses.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

GALLATIN, December 1, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

There is a heavy force of the enemy at Lebanon, Tenn., ten miles from the Cole's Ferry crossing, twelve from Gallatin crossing. I have pickets at all the crossings for twelve miles up the river. Please order my men at Nashville and Camp Webster, with officers, fit for duty report to me here at once. General Schofield's train is mostly in, and will be pushed forward at once.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

BUCK LODGE, TENN., December 1, 1864.

Ment. H. D. BROWN,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Chattanooga, Tenn.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you that yesterday at 1 p. m. it was reported to me by a citizen that about twenty guerrillas had crossed the railroad between Buck Lodge and South Tunnel, and that perhaps the railroad was damaged. I sent immediately a patrol toward South Tunnel, and found that at a point one mile south of Buck Lodge, and half a mile north of the bridge picket, four rails had been removed from the track and the telegraph cut. I ordered my men to repair the track, and the same time stopped the passenger train which was just coming down. The telegraph was repaired by the engineer. You will allow me to say that the act was done in full sight of the bridge picket, and that it could not have been done if the workmen on the railroad had made application for a guard instead of working without. I was with my company at skirmish drill at the same time, not more than half a mile from that place, and heard the hammering, but as I knew the workmen were there I had no suspicion.

I remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADAM BUCK,

Captain Company A, Commanding Post.

TANALOGA, December 1, 1864.

Major HOFFMAN:

I have just returned from Elk River bridge; there has been no enemy heard of in that vicinity, and neither the road nor telegraph has been disturbed to Murfreesborough. Breckinridge is reported at McMinnville. The officers at Elk River bridge say they have heard cannonading all day in the direction of Nashville.

WM. J. PALMER,

Colonel Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

MURFREESBOROUGH, December 1, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,

Chattanooga:

Hood is now front of Nashville. No communication between this and that place. Heavy firing heard in that direction between 10 and 12 o'clock last night. It may be an effort was made to take some block-houses, or perhaps a fight at Nashville. A. J. Smith and force was at Nashville on the 30th with two corps and a piece. General Steedman was recalled on the 1st instant, though I fear two of his trains were captured; one of them got off the track, and both were delayed till the 2d instant. It is reported the trains were captured, but not the troops. A heavy battle was fought at Franklin on the evening of the 30th. The rebels charged and took two lines of intrenched rifle pits, so they say, and wanted to take the third. Have Captain Lead- enbetter prisoner here, who was at the fight. He says the rebels lost nine generals, five killed and four wounded, and between 5,000 and 8,000 killed and wounded. The battle began about one hour by sun and lasted until 11 or 11.30 o'clock. They made repeated efforts to take by assault our third line, but failed. I believe Schofield and Stanley

only were in the battle. After the fight they withdrew toward Nashville. Captain Leadenbetter says all right here, and able to flog Hood, if he will come. Block-houses on road south of here garrisoned and all right, also up to and beyond La Vergne.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General,

ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH,
Nashville, December 4, 1864.

I. Captain Hotchkiss, acting chief of artillery, District of the Etowah, is relieved from further duty in that capacity, and will rejoin his company as soon as practicable.

II. Captain Aleshire, Eighteenth Ohio Battery, senior artillery officer with this command, will act as chief of artillery during the present campaign. He will be respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General Steedman:

S. B. MOE,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Col. A. A. SMITH,
Clarksville:

Do not allow any more transport steamers to come up the river until further orders. Get Colonel Thompson and command across the river as soon as possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, *December 4, 1864.*

Col. A. A. SMITH,
Clarksville:

Captain Fitch has cleaned out the rebel battery down the river and recaptured the two steamers captured last night. He does not think it safe for transports to run up from Clarksville yet.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

CLARKSVILLE, *December 4, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

Just arrived; the head of my column is opposite; will be ready to cross in three hours; will bring teams first. It will probably take us all night to cross, as there are nearly 200 wagons. Have you any further orders? The command is in good condition; all we need is provisions.

C. B. THOMPSON,

NASHVILLE, December 1, 1861.

Col. C. R. THOMPSON,
Clarksville:

Come to this place with your command, unless Colonel Smith desires another regiment, in which case leave one and come with the rest.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General, &c.ACTING ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
RIVER AND DEPOT TRANSPORTATION,
Nashville, Tenn., December 1, 1861.Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, agreeable to my orders of the 3d instant, the U. S. tow-boat N. J. Higley, under command of the U. S. gun-boat Newsboy, proceeded up the river to Young's Point, near Hartsville, 100 miles above this place, for the purpose of bringing to this post detachments from different batteries cutting timber at that point, arriving there at 11 a. m., leaving at 12.30 p. m. to-day, and reaching this post at 7 o'clock this evening with the troops on board. No enemy seen, or any evidence that he had been upon the river.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. H. STEVENSON,

First Lieut., Chicago Board of Trade Battery, Illinois Vol., and
Acting Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Volunteers.HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,
Louisville, Ky., December 1, 1861.Major-General STONEMAN,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

I received a few days ago a telegram to General Schofield, from the War Department, directing him to relieve you from duty in this department and order you to Cincinnati to await orders. I sent it forward to him, and have heard nothing from it since.

G. M. BARCOM,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,
Louisville, Ky., December 1, 1861.Maj. Gen. GEORGE STONEMAN,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

Richmond papers admit that Sherman will reach the sea-coast; he crossed the Oconee River some days ago. Great fears are expressed for the safety of Savannah. It is reported that Sherman captured Millen, on the Georgia Central Railroad, on the 29th ultimo. All quiet around Richmond. No heavy fighting near Nashville since the battle at Franklin. There are rumors that Hood is trying to cross the Cumberland River.

G. M. BARCOM,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Faint handwritten notes]

Major West,

[Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page:]

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陳其美、張謇、李鴻章、楊昌濬等，皆為當時之重要人物。

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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THE

華英字典

Dr. J. M. Bailey, Twenty sixth Kentucky, telegraphs War
Green that the Twenty sixth leaves there today, and the
late possession of the place as soon as the regiment leaves.
can be sent from General McLean's command to you at
there not sufficient of the Twelfth U. S. Cavalry, Henry
Bailey Green to protect the place?

1987年12月

J. HATFIELD BROWN,
 Carpenter and Joiner, 102 West 12th Street.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY,

Nashville, Tenn., December 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD DELAPORTE,

Chief Engineer U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st ultimo, and in reply to inform you that the following named officers of the Corps of Engineers have been promoted to brevet rank for meritorious services rendered during the late campaign and their appropriate duties since they have been assigned to the same department: Capt. William K. Merrill, U. S. Engineers, has been promoted to rank of major; First Lieut. H. C. Whitcomb, U. S. Engineers, has been promoted to rank of captain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major General, U. S. Army.

SAINT LOUIS, Mo., December 1, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,

Nashville, Tenn.

Regret the delay in forwarding Winchester's cavalry, but want and desire. Hope they will be supplied in two or three days. Merrill's Horse has large detachments waiting to get remainder with pleasure. He would much like to be with you.

W. M. HENRIKSEN,

Major General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROBERTSON,

Saint Louis, Mo.

Your telegram of this date just received. Am much obliged for your offer of Merrill's Horse. I hardly suppose any other separating him so far from his proper command would meet the approval of the Department at Washington. I hope you may be able to forward Winchester's cavalry in two or three days, and shall be very much obliged if you will hurry them forward as rapidly as possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY,

Nashville, Tenn., December 2, 1864.

General J. B. HOOD,

Commanding Confederate Forces, on Franklin Road.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, making arrangements.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HIGGS, DEPT. OF THE C. & M. RAILROAD,
No. 333. } Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1901.

L. Maj. Gen. D. N. Couch, U. S. Volunteers, having reported at these headquarters in obedience to orders of the War Department, is assigned to duty with the Fourth Army Corps, and will report to Maj. Gen. J. S. Stanley, commanding.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1901.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report for the information of the commanding general of the forces that, so far as can be observed this morning, in the intense haze and smoke, no change occurred in the enemy's position in front of this corps during the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS 125TH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1901.

Capt. E. C. WHITESIDES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The officers in charge of picket stations in each brigade of the division report the moving of trains to the left from 1 to 3 this a. m., also some to the right; did not think it to be artillery. No other demonstrations were made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWIN P. HATES,
Captain, 125th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Officer of the Day.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
December 3, 1901.

Major-General STONEMAN,
Nashville:

The Secretary of War directs me to inform you that General Stoneman was, in the first instance, relieved by an order of General Grant which was temporarily suspended by the Secretary. It was afterwards renewed by the Secretary. Upon receipt of your telegram to me to-day the matter was referred to General Grant for such action as he deems proper. General Grant has in reply sent the following telegram: The Secretary of War directs that if, on consideration, you think expedient to intrust General Stoneman with the important command

* See Grant to Stanton, 1 p. 21, p. 24.

NASHVILLE, December 5, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. A. COOPER,
Clarksville:

Your dispatch of this date is received. March with your command by road to this place on the north side of the river.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

GALLATIN, December 5, 1864.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

I have fourteen men since 12 last night in the enemy's country. There is reason to believe that the citizens are building pontoons in their houses. Could you send me a transport or a steam ferry to-night at 7 o'clock to Gallatin landing if my suspicions are confirmed?

Answer,

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brigadier-General.HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 5, 1864.Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose for the information of the general commanding a copy of a telegram* received from Brigadier-General Hammond, commanding brigade at Gallatin. If a gun-boat can be sent up to General Hammond to-night, please notify me, and I will telegraph him to that effect.

Respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 5, 1864.Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that, in accordance with your request, a gun-boat will be sent to Gallatin to-night, and will co-operate with General Hammond in his operations in that section.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ante.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
[December 5, 1864.]

MAJ. J. B. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the result of my journey to Saint Louis and Memphis, made in accordance with orders, instructions, &c., from General Thomas' headquarters and from headquarters Cavalry Corps:

I left here on the morning of the 20th ultimo and arrived in Saint Louis on the 23d. The unusual length of time en route to Saint Louis was caused by an accident to the train, and by another circumstance, which I make the object of a special report. At General Rosecrans' headquarters I learned that Colonel Winslow's command would probably arrive in Saint Louis by the 1st of December. I met Colonel Winslow, and after making the necessary and most speedy arrangements for the transfer of that portion of his command to this place, we left November 24 for Memphis. Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, was left in Saint Louis to superintend the transfer. General Rosecrans assured me that he should have every facility for remounting, re-equipping, &c., as quickly as possible. We arrived in Memphis Monday morning, November 28. I saw General Washburn, district commander; at first he did not seem inclined to part with Colonel Winslow's command. The next morning Colonel Winslow and I had another interview with him, when he concluded to let Colonel Winslow's old brigade (Third and Fourth Iowa and Tenth Missouri) go, retaining the following regiments: First Mississippi Mounted Rifles, Second New Jersey Cavalry, Fourth Missouri Cavalry, Seventh Indiana Cavalry. Those he claimed as ordered to be left there by the brevet major-general commanding the Cavalry Corps. As far as I have been able to learn the First Mississippi Mounted Rifles amounts to but little. The Second New Jersey Cavalry is a very large regiment, but nearly half the men are one-year recruits; the regiment is very poorly disciplined. The two remaining regiments (Fourth Missouri and Seventh Indiana) constitute the real strength of what is to be left, and of these I should think the Fourth Missouri the better regiment. Colonel Winslow's letter to me, written after I had left him, will give you a good idea of the matter, and from what saw of him I judge him to be a very efficient officer, although now unfit for field duty, having been recently wounded. He was perfectly informed on the most minute points, even concerning the condition, wants, &c. of his command, and seemed to take great pride in it. I think his opinion worthy of more than ordinary consideration. The organization of the portion of the command to be left in Memphis shows an aggregate of about 3,000; of this number not more than 1,000 or 1,200 are effective, and it appeared difficult to keep even those effective. That portion which is to leave Memphis will number about 1,400 effective; add to these the detachment from Saint Louis, say 1,300, it gives an aggregate of about 2,700. This calculation includes only the following regiments: Third and Fourth Iowa and Tenth Missouri (Winslow's old brigade). Before leaving Memphis General Washburn assured me that he would render Colonel Winslow the necessary facilities for a speedy departure; but as a portion of the command was about starting on a scout, thought they would be unable to leave before to-day (5th). The Saint Louis detachment will probably leave to-day also. In Memphis I learned that General Grierson was at his home in Jacksonville, Ill. He had been absent several weeks.

I inclose the letter* of Colonel Winslow referred to on the preceding page.

I left Memphis November 29 and arrived here this morning (December 5). Was delayed a day or two in Louisville, as the regular trains were not running.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

HENRY E. NOYES,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 7. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

The following allowance of transportation for the Cavalry Corps has been adopted, and will be at once carried into effect under the direction of the chief quartermaster: For headquarters of the corps, four wagons for baggage and desks, and a sufficient number to carry subsistence stores for sales to officers and issues to enlisted men on duty at headquarters. For a division, thirty-five wagons, of which sixteen shall compose the ordnance train of the division, eight shall carry subsistence stores, eight, quartermaster's stores, and three shall be for the division commanders and staff. For brigade headquarters, two wagons for every 1,000 men in the brigade, thirteen wagons for subsistence stores and two wagons for quartermaster's stores. For each regiment there will be allowed five wagons, to be used as follows: One for regimental headquarters, two for baggage of officers, one for quartermaster's and commissary tools, and one, under control of the regimental commander, to carry surplus ordnance stores until they can be turned over. In addition to the above, and for operation at a distance from the supply trains, there will be allowed for division and brigade headquarters, each, one light wagon; to each regimental commander, one pack mule, one to every two field and staff officers, one to officers of each company, and one to every twenty-five men. The allowance of ambulances and hospital wagons will be regulated by the medical director of the corps, but for present use, in case of an emergency, there will be allowed to headquarters of the corps and division two ambulances, to each brigade, one, and to each regiment, two.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 28. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, December 3, 1864.

II. Lieut. Col. A. J. Alexander, assistant adjutant-general, Seventeenth Army Corps, having reported for temporary duty in compliance with orders from Major-General Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, is assigned to duty on the staff of the brevet major-general commanding.

III. Capt. Levi T. Griffin, Fourth Michigan Volunteer Cavalry, having reported in obedience to orders, is assigned to duty as acting assistant adjutant-general and stationed at cavalry headquarters, Nashville, Tenn. This order to date from November 30, 1864.

* Not found as an inclosure.

IV. Capt. W. W. Van Antwerp, Fourth Michigan Volunteer Cavalry, having reported in obedience to orders, is assigned to duty as acting aide-de-camp. This order is dated from November 30, 1864.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CROXTON,
Commanding First Division, Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs that you replace all the men belonging to General Watkins' brigade that are on detached duty by men from your other brigade, and hold General Watkins' brigade in readiness to move at short notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, December [5], 1864.

General B. L. LONG,
Commanding Second Division:

Mount all the men for whom you have horses, arms, and equipments, and report to me what articles you are short, and how many. The order of the Secretary of War contemplates and authorizes the seizure of every species of property necessary to put your command in an efficient condition. If saddles, blankets, or arms can be found you should take them at once. Answer as soon as possible.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

GALLATIN, December 5, 1864.

Adj. E. B. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My scouts in; chased by the rebels to the river. Breckinridge, with two brigades of 8,000 mounted men, left Lebanon this morning, and is expected to cross at Carthage to-night or to-morrow. He is to go to Kentucky, striking the railroad near Bowling Green. He arrived in Lebanon Sunday. Citizens say that Forrest will cross near Clarksville. His brigade is in Lebanon, and is thought by some to be a reinforcement for Breckinridge; by others to remain and watch us and the rebel rear. The men went to three miles and a half of Lebanon before being suspected. I have another out alone, who expects to be in town to-night and reach me before morning. The country south of the river is full of rebels gathering horses and clothing and receiving horses and supplies from this side. I will get all the horses in the country; there are but few. I have 400 men out in all directions pressing. Have been destroying all the boats I could find since arrival. I have started all my available force to Carthage, thirty-three miles at, as a corps of observation, besides scouts.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

GALLATIN, December 3, 1864.

Maj. E. R. BEAUFONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Schell's train, with 400 infantry and 100 of my men as advance guard, left here for Nashville at 1 o'clock this morning; 500 wagons.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HIGH CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. F. KNIFE,

Comdy. Seventh Div., Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: You will send a staff officer to Clarksville, with orders to bring the detachment of the Nineteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry from that place, also all other detachments of Winchester or Hatch's divisions which may have arrived at that place. They will march through the country, and bring in all serviceable cavalry horses that may be obtained, bringing their baggage and equipments by wagons. Colonel Johnson, commanding colored troops, will give them all the assistance in his power. Inclosed find a quantity of blank receipts.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson.

LEVI T. GRIFFIN,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 3, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General ROUSSEAU,

Murfreesborough:

It is reported to me that General Milroy has captured six pieces of artillery from the enemy, who attacked block houses 6 and 7 yesterday p. m. If this report is correct I desire you to have pieces taken to Murfreesborough and put in position in the fortifications at that place. Make me a full report of your operations since our communication has been broken up. We are all right here, only waiting for our cavalry, which will be here in a few days.

Geo. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN., December 3, 1864.

Maj. JAMES T. HICKEY,

181st Ohio Volunteer Infantry:

SIR: Major-General Rousseau directs that you take command of a construction train and guard and move out, with as little delay as possible, to repair the railroad between this place and Nashville. You will take with you a telegraph operator and an instrument, and establish telegraphic communications with this place. You will communicate promptly to these headquarters all the information you can obtain of

movements of the enemy. Use the utmost vigilance in guarding your train, and for this purpose the cavalry at Overall's Creek has been ordered to scout on your front and flanks.

By order of Major-General Rousseau:

E. A. OTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH,
Nashville, December 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that this morning I sent out the Sixth Indiana (dismounted) Cavalry, Sixty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Fourteenth and Sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops, to reconnoiter in front of my present position. They met some resistance in advancing through the woods between my works and my former position, in front of the residence of Mr. Rains, but successfully pushed their advance to the works, driving the enemy from the position. They were unable to discover any considerable force of the enemy. The reconnoitering party captured seventeen prisoners— one lieutenant and sixteen enlisted men—who were forwarded to Captain Goodwin. The prisoners belong to the division known as "Cleburne's division," commanded by General Lawrey, who, the rebel lieutenant captured this morning says, succeeded to the command after the death of General Cleburne, at Franklin. The prisoners all concur in stating that this force of the rebels is their extreme right, resting on the railroad, where they have strong rifle pits.

Respectfully,

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

DALTON, December 5, 1864.

Capt. H. A. FORD,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

A squad of fifty guerrillas attacked water tank two miles and a half above here at 4 o'clock this morning. The guard, nine men, ran away. Rebels then went to the bridge one mile above and captured the guard, thirty men, cut the wire, and left. The thirty men captured belonged to the command at Tunnel Hill. No damage done the road.

J. B. GILVER,
Colonel Thirteenth Michigan, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 5, 1864.

Col. A. A. SMITH,

Clarksville:

Do not permit boats to pass up the river above Clarksville until you hear from here that the river is clear.

WM
Brigadier-General and Asst.

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CLARKSVILLE, December 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

I will detain all boats here. U. S. hospital boat is here awaiting orders. One hundred and seventy stragglers of Sixteenth Army Corp here. Shall I send by railroad? Colonel Thompson's command, except Forty-third Wisconsin, have commenced to move overland.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 5, 1864.

Col. A. A. SMITH,

Clarksville:

Send the stragglers of Sixteenth Army Corps either by rail or boat

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General, &c.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 5, 1864.

Col. A. A. SMITH,

Clarksville:

Gun-boats will soon start for Clarksville. Send back under convo such transports as may be there waiting.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General, &c.

CLARKSVILLE, December 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Colonel Smith desires one regiment left for a short time at least. Will leave the Forty-third Wisconsin, unless I have further order. With the command left will be in Nashville on the 7th, if no accident happens.

CHAS. R. THOMPSON,
Colonel, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 5, 1864.

Col. C. R. THOMPSON,

Clarksville:

You are authorized to detain the Forty-third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers until further orders.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE:

General Cooper will be here to-day. The headquarters of his column is about one mile from here, on the other side of the river. Can get particulars yet, but he has his artillery with him.

CHAS. R. THOMPSON,
Colonel, Commanding, &c.

BRIDGEPORT, *December 5, 1864.*

Major-General THOMAS:

I have the honor to report the safe arrival of my command at Stevenson, about 250 wagons, followed by a large concourse of refugees and contrabands. Five hundred or 600 of the enemy's cavalry followed us yesterday, threatened the train, but were easily driven off. The roads were wretched, and the streams barely passable. The locomotive and two cars sent back to Huntsville were escorted by 120 men, all that could be got on. They were not captured, but lost by the carelessness of a frightened engineer, who ran the engine off the track, being fired at by a few citizens, who were all the enemy in the town.

R. S. CRANFIER,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 5, 1864—8 p. m.*

Major-General STONEMAN, *Knoxville, Tenn.:*

The enemy are in our front, and we are only waiting to get our cavalry up, when we will resume the offensive again. What news have you of the enemy's movements in your vicinity, or of General Sherman's in Georgia?

(GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

KNOXVILLE, *December 5, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

All accounts agree in locating the enemy north of the Watauga River; I will know for certain to-morrow or next day. I am shoeing horses and collecting my party together for a sudden push in the direction indicated in my telegram; also to destroy the railroad desired by General Thomas.

GEORGE STONEMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Nashville, Tenn., December 5, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BARCOM,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Louisville, Ky.:

Colonel Gridler informs me that when the Twenty-sixth Kentucky leaves Bowling Green that place will be left almost without troops. Where are the four regiments I sent to relieve the Twenty-sixth? It is nearly a month since the change was ordered and the Twenty-sixth is not here yet. See to it at once.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

BEAN'S STATION, *December 5, 1864.*
(Received 9th.)

Capt. J. BATES DICKSON:

I am informed that a large rebel force is concentrating for the invasion of Kentucky at Jonesborough and Bristol. I do not credit it, but if an invasion occurs they will probably go by way of Estillville, Jones-

of presenting it to the Canadian authorities. Unless a military force is maintained by the Canadian authorities on the frontier to keep in check the rebels congregated there, there will be frequent raids from Canada at exposed points, which will lead to retaliation by our citizens whose property may be destroyed, and lead to trouble between the two Governments, which it is so desirable should be avoided.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. H. HILL,

Lieut. Col., U. S. Army, Actg. Asst. Provost Marshal-General.

CITY POINT, VA., December 6, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,

Nashville, Tenn.:

Attack Hood at once, and wait no longer for a remount of your cavalry. There is great danger of delay resulting in a campaign back to the Ohio River.

U. S. GRANT,

Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 6, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,

City Point:

Your telegram of 6.30 [a] p. m. December 6 is just received. As soon as I can get up a respectable force of cavalry I will march against Hood. General Wilson has parted out new pressing horses, and I hope to have some 6,000 or 8,000 cavalry mounted in three days from this time. General Wilson has just left me, having received instructions to hurry the cavalry remount as rapidly as possible. I do not think it prudent to attack Hood with less than 6,000 cavalry to cover my flanks, because he has, under Forrest, at least 12,000. I have no doubt Forrest will attempt to cross the river, but I am in hopes the gun boats will be able to prevent him. The enemy has made no new developments to day. Breckinridge is reported at Lebanon, Tenn., with 6,000 men, but I cannot believe it possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 6, 1864—9 p. m.

(Received 12.25 a. m. 7th.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,

City Point:

Your telegram of 4 p. m. this day is just received. I will make the necessary dispositions and attack Hood at once, agreeably to your order, though I believe it will be hazardous with the small force of cavalry now at my service.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 6, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

The movements against the Mobile and Ohio Railroad were ordered by General Canby on the 25th and 26th ultimo, and the orders have been repeated. Records show that 22,000 cavalry horses have been issued at Louisville, Lexington, and Nashville since the 20th of September.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 6, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Your telegram of 1 p. m. this day is just received. I know that a great many horses have been issued to the cavalry of the Military Division of the Mississippi since September. A great many have been lost in battle, and a great many have died of glanders and distemper, and a large number of the men are still dismounted. I have seen General Wilson to-night, who encourages me to hope that he will be able to mount 6,000 or 7,000 in three days from this time. The enemy have made no new developments to-day. I will attack him as soon as General Wilson can get together a sufficient cavalry force to protect my flanks.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Saint Louis, December 6, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

The Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry has reported to me under orders from the War Department, through the superintendent volunteer recruiting, State of Illinois, to General Smith. The regiment consists of 304 men, but 115 armed and equipped. Two commissioned officers here, and where shall they be sent?

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, December 6, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding:

The following just received from Chattanooga via Cumberland Gap:

DECEMBER 5, 1864.

Fifty guerrillas captured the guard of thirty men this morning at Buzzard's Roost, but did not disturb the railroad.

PATTERSON.

Respectfully,

JOHN C. VAN DUZER,
Captain.

KY., SW. VA., TENN., MISS., ALA., AND N. GA. (CHAP. XVII.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

General WHITTLE:

The enemy's appearance in front is same as yesterday.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

ORDERED.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

The undersigned having been ordered to duty with the Fourth Army Corps, hereby assumes temporary command of the same.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Saint Cloud Hotel, December 6, 1864.
(Received 9.30 a. m. 7th.)

Major-General Couch,
General Wood's Headquarters:

You can be assigned to a division in General Schofield's army if you are willing. This arrangement will enable General Kimball to retain his division in the Fourth Army Corps. Answer.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL,
Commanding First Division, Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that information has been received that General Hood is calling for volunteers in order to attack our lines. The general desires that extra care and watchfulness be observed by division commanders during the night, and that the picket officers of the division be upon the line frequently.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. E. STANBURY,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

(Same to Brigadier-General Elliott, commanding Second Division.)

WASHINGTON, December 6, 1864.

General SCHOFIELD:

Your telegram of the 5th, acknowledging receipt of mine of same date, has been seen by the Secretary of War, who desires you to do as you propose.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HOURS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 172. } Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

* * * * *
V. Paragraph H, of Special Field Orders, No. 171, current series, from these headquarters, relieving Major-General Stoneman from duty in the Department of the Ohio, and ordering him to repair to Cincinnati, Ohio, is hereby revoked.

* * * * *
By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS,

December 6, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding:

The enemy have a battery on the Charlotte pike, and developed some infantry force this evening, moving toward our right. All quiet at present.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HOURS, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 331. } Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

* * * * *
IX. Inasmuch as the Sixteenth Army Corps has been discontinued, the troops which formerly composed a portion of that organization, now under command of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, will be known as the Detachment of the Army of the Tennessee.

* * * * *
By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,

December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD:

What news have you of the movements of the enemy to-day?

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

DECEMBER 6, 1864

Maj. Gen. J. B. STEEDMAN:

The enemy in our front to-day has been rather quiet. No movements of interest, but he has been quite busy in strengthening his works, which are quite near to our works. Will keep you informed.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Capt. B. B. CARLING,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cavalry Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that the quartermaster's department is engaged to-day in laying a pontoon bridge across the Cumberland, from near the end of Church street to the opposite bank of the river, for the purpose of accommodating the cavalry trains and for other purposes. It will be a double-track bridge, and the regulation will be for trains coming this way to use one track, and those going the other way, the other. I expect to have it ready for service to-night, or in the morning at the earliest. Please notify General Wilson of the arrangement, and oblige,

Very respectfully,

JAS. F. RUSLING,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster and
Acting Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 20. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, December 6, 1864.

I. Capt. J. D. Maxley, First Ohio Cavalry, is hereby detailed as acting assistant inspector-general, and will report to Lieut. Col. G. G. Miller, commanding dismounted cavalry, at Camp Webster, for duty.

III. Maj. J. M. Young, Fifth Iowa Cavalry, is hereby detailed as provost-marshal, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, and will report to these headquarters when relieved from duty on general court-martial.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, } HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
No. 2. } Edgefield, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Division commanders will take immediate measures to concentrate the whole of their respective commands at this point by noon of Friday, the 9th instant. They will also use every exertion to get all the horses possible by that time.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Colonel LA GRANGE,
Commanding Brigade, First Division:

COLONEL: An order is in force from the Secretary of War permitting General Wilson to press a sufficient number of serviceable horses to mount his command. He has had parties out in this vicinity some

days on this duty, but is still in want of several thousand horses. He therefore desires you to press all the serviceable cavalry horses and mules you may find in the vicinity of your line of march and bring them with you to this point. I send you a package of memorandum receipts, which you will cause the officers detailed for the duty to give to the persons from whom they take the animals, and say to them that these receipts will be replaced by the proper Government vouchers upon presentation to Captain Carling, chief quartermaster of this corps, at Nashville, Tenn. Should a horse be taken that is not worth the maximum price paid by the Government (\$100), the officer signing the receipt will state his estimated value on the receipt. All the horses you may be able to obtain will be turned in on your arrival to Capt. W. M. Wilson, acting assistant quartermaster. It is desirable in this matter that the citizens be treated with all due consideration, and that receipts be given with every animal which is taken.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CHASTON,
Commanding First Division:

The general commanding directs that you send an officer to Colonel La Grange, and urge him to reach this point by Friday night at the earliest.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, December 6, 1864.

General ELI LONG:

Telegram of to-day received. If the proper arms are not ready by the time you are all mounted take anything you can get, and leave an officer to receive the arms required as soon as they arrive. This is a matter of very great importance and allows of no delay. Is the Fifth Indiana all at Louisville? If Major Chambliss is not there to carry out the instructions in regard to seizures, give them to the commanders of all detachments and act for me till he arrives. As you come through from Louisville direct your division and brigade quartermasters to seize all horses fit for cavalry service and bring them through, for transfer to the chief quartermaster of the corps for issue to the dismounted men here. Communicate this order to McCook, so that he may give similar instructions to La Grange. We need 4,000 horses here.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. ELI LONG,
Comdg. Second Div., Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:

Your communication of December 4 has just been received. I telegraphed to-day directing you to mount all your men at once, or as soon

as possible, and start as soon as you could, arming the dismounted men with whatever you could get, and leaving an officer behind to bring forward the good ones as soon as they arrive. If horse equipment and horses cannot be obtained from the bureau seize such as can be found. I fully agree with you in regard to the impediment of hurrying into the field half prepared. It is expensive and injurious to the service, and I do not wish you to think I am any party to the necessity which impels us to do such things. I am as unwilling as you or Major Chambliss, but you must not forget we are all under the authority of others. General Thomas himself manifests every desire in the world to give us time, but Hood is very near, and the authorities in Washington are very anxious. I beg you to assure Major Chambliss that I bear ample testimony to his activity and zeal in furnishing remnants and in hurrying troops to the field. I am sure he has done everything in his power, and ought to be gratified with the result. I am sorry that arms cannot be furnished more rapidly, and that horse equipments are brought forward so slowly. I wish you to bear in mind, however, that when your command does come, I would like to have it completely equipped. After conversing with General Garrard, I am inclined to make no change in your command, except to transfer the First Ohio out of it, leaving you eight old regiments. If this one regiment is the one you wish transferred, please regard this matter settled, and make your arrangements accordingly.

Hoping that you will be able to leave Louisville very soon and with a complete outfit,

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major General.

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HATCH,
Commanding Fifth Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to withdraw that portion of your command which is guarding the river at such a time as will enable them to reach this point by Friday night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division:

The general commanding desires you to issue such orders as will concentrate all your forces which are watching the river at this camp by Friday night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 6, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Col. T. J. HARRISON,
Commanding Brigade:

I am just in receipt of a circular from corps headquarters requiring the whole of the cavalry force to be concentrated here by Friday night, the 9th instant. I am not inclined, in the absence of General Johnson, to give orders in the premises, but respectfully suggest to you the propriety of dispatching a messenger, with such escort as you may think necessary, to Lieutenant-Colonel Baird, commanding Fifth Iowa Cavalry, requiring him to return at once, by the best route, bringing with him what horses he may have collected, or may be able to collect on his return march. Every exertion consistent with the concentration of his command at the day named must in the meantime be used. Please notify Colonel Garrard in the morning that he must be here by Friday night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. T. WELLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GALLATIN, December 6, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

It does seem incredible that Breckinridge should be able to come in with so large a force, but the scouts all agreed in their accounts; another who came in later says pontoons have been building at Lebanon. Lebanon is on the Sparta route from East Tennessee. My force toward Carthage will report the moment there is anything certain, and I will use every effort to obtain information. I have not exceeding 100 available horses, and they are all needed for my command, but I have three large parties out two days that should bring me 150 more to-day. Gun-boats had not arrived at 7 o'clock; expect them when I reach the landing. I move camp on Cold's Ferry road this morning.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

GALLATIN, December 6, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

My cavalry reached Carthage this morning; all quiet there. If Breckinridge has come through at all, he has not come by way of Sparta; no force there. Have ordered my couriers to scout from Carthage toward Lebanon as far as possible, and on return destroy all boats found until my party is met destroying up. Scouts to Lebanon failed to get in to-day. Small rebel forces of Dibrell's command picket the river in my front and pressing horses. No gun-boats have appeared. Will be able to make a return of horses day after to-morrow.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

GALLATIN, December 6, 1864.

Maj. F. R. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant General, Cavalry Corps.

One gunboat arrived 8 p. m. and reports two more following. Will act with the commanders.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Recent Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 6, 1864.

Major-General RICHARDS,
Murfreesborough.

I telegraphed you yesterday p. m. asking for a report of your operations since communication has been broken; no answer received yet. The enemy is still in our front, massed between the Nolensville and Franklin pike. He has made no demonstration against the city up to this time. All right here and ready for any attack.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. CHANSEN,
Bridgeport, Ala.

Your dispatch of 5th instant just received. You must hold the country about Stevenson and Bridgeport securely until we can open up communication from this place.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

BRIDGEPORT, December 6, 1864.

General T. F. MEACHER,
Commanding District of the Etowah.

I have the honor to report that in accordance with orders from Major-General Steedman I have returned with my regiment from Cowan, and will reach my camp at Wauhatchie to-morrow afternoon.

WM. J. PALMER,
Colonel Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

DALTON, GA., December 6, 1864.

Capt. H. A. FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

One of my scouts informs me that Colonel Graham, with one gun, has joined the rebel forces at Spring Place with a force of 500 men, and that they contemplate assaulting Dalton within forty-eight hours. I credit this report, and will be ready for them. Can't you send me the cavalry immediately. I expect to whip them, and want to follow up any advantage I may obtain. Please send me thirty boxes more of ammunition at once.

DALTON, GA., December 6, 1864.

Capt. H. A. FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your dispatch received.* I telegraphed, in brief, yesterday particulars of capture of thirty men of Major Hamill's command at bridge three miles south of Tunnel Hill. The garrison, commanded by Sergt. John H. Bayly, Thirtieth Illinois Infantry, consisted of thirty men, who were surprised and captured by about fifty guerrillas. Our troops made no resistance; all conscripts except Sergeant Bayly. There is no black horse or stockade at the bridge, and in my judgment Major Hamill is much to blame in this matter. He informed me yesterday that he never visited that post. On my return I directed his new guard to throw up a defense of logs and earth, and bade them stay there and fight. You are doubtless aware that neither the post nor men there are under my command.

J. B. CULYER,
Colonel Thirteenth Michigan Infantry, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Forty-second Missouri have just arrived on two transports. Gunboats have not arrived yet. General Cooper got safely across river; went into camp last night near city.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

I have information that the rebel General Lyon was crossing the Tennessee River the 4th with 3,000 or 4,000 men at the bridge, said to be moving into Kentucky. I fear he may be going to Fort Donelson. The Forty-second Missouri are here on boats, and could be sent down, if you think best.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 6, 1864.

General WHIPPLE:

Your dispatch of this date, directing the return of the Forty-second Missouri Volunteers to Fort Donelson, received. Will start immediately.

By order of William Forbes, colonel Forty-second Missouri Volunteers:

JOHN M. LOUDON,
Adjutant.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., *December 6, 1864—12.30 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS:

Your dispatch of last evening, just received, sets our minds at ease. Enemy have all fallen back into Virginia and North Carolina, with but little opposition. Rumors, not reliable, that Bushrod Johnson is on his way with a force down to Bristol. I will have the railroad destroyed in a few days, as you wish. I will hit them a lick they are not prepared for. No news from Sherman. Bristol papers say Hood has whipped Thomas badly, and that Hood is on his way into Kentucky, where he will be joined by Longstreet. Have not seen the paper myself, but am so told by a person who says he saw it. I have every available man employed in completing and strengthening the lines around Knoxville. About forty officers who escaped from Columbia, S. C., have arrived here during the past two weeks. I can issue them rations and clothing, but the paymaster here refuses to pay them. They are, of course, entirely destitute.

GEORGE STONEMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, *December 6, 1864—8.30 p. m.*Major-General STONEMAN, *Knoxville:*

Your dispatches of 10.30 p. m. 5th instant and 12.30 p. m. to-day are just received. If you can effectually destroy the railroad for twenty-five or thirty miles beyond the Virginia line, East Tennessee will, I think, then be perfectly secure from further invasion. After destroying the railroad and the salt-works, if you can, you had better draw your main force back to the vicinity of Knoxville for the defense of East Tennessee.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE ORIO,
Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864.

Major-General STONEMAN, *Knoxville:*

I approve of the first part of the plan proposed in your letter of November 26, viz, to push the enemy as far back as practicable into Virginia and destroy the salt-works and railroad. I cannot decide as to further operations until affairs here take a more definite shape; therefore, do not undertake the other enterprise without further orders. Inform me by telegraph when you start, and keep me advised of your progress.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

LEXINGTON, KY., *December 6, 1864.*

Major-General BURBRIDGE,
Bean's Station, Tenn.:

Dispatch received. Several days ago ordered scouts from Louisa to watch Stony Point, and Louisa Fork Gaps, also sent scouts out from Mount Sterling on road to gaps. Will be vigilant, and in case of invasion, do all that is possible in defense.

MCLANE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

LEXINGTON, KY., *December 6, 1864.*

Colonel WEATHERFORD,
Camp Nelson, Ky.:

Did you receive the order to guard telegraph line to Cumberland Gap? Have you sent the men?

J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP NELSON, *December 6, 1864.*

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The men will start in time to reach Crab Orchard to-night, as ordered. Cannot forces at Cumberland Gap patrol as far as Barboursville? I can then keep men continually going back and forth from Crab Orchard to Barboursville. There is no subsistence for men between Cumberland Gap and Crab Orchard. Answer.

J. W. WEATHERFORD,
Colonel, &c.

LEXINGTON, KY., *December 6, 1864.*

Col. G. W. GALLUP,
Louisia, Ky.:

Did you receive the orders to send scouts to Pound and Stony Gaps? Have you sent them? Be watchful for a force concentrating at Jonesborough and Bristol.

J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COVINGTON, *December 6, 1864.*

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A detective has reliable information that forty rebels will pass Jackstown at McBurnihan's Mill to-night. Troops from Paris could intercept them.

P. T. SWAINE,
Colonel, Commanding.

LEXINGTON, KY., *December 6, 1864.*

Colonel EARNEST,
Commanding, Paris, Ky.:

A squad of forty rebels will cross the railroad from Jackstown to night. Send a force to intercept them.

By command of Brigadier-General McLean:

[JAS. M. WATTS,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 6, 1861—10 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Vicksburg, Miss.:

You will make every possible exertion to destroy the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, by which Hood's army is now supplied.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.Commanding officer at Cairo will forward this by a special messenger,
H. W. H.,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 6, 1861—10 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Memphis:

You will immediately endeavor to cut the Mobile and Ohio Railroad so that Hood's army cannot be supplied by that route. Call on General Reynolds for assistance if necessary.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.Commanding officer at Cairo will forward this by special messenger,
H. W. H.HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 6, 1861.Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of a letter dated 3d instant, just received from Lieut. Col. R. H. Hill, commanding the District of Michigan, as it contains information of importance to all of our frontier bordering upon Canada. The information has been furnished by one of our most reliable detectives, and unusual confidence may be placed in it. A few days since advices of similar import were received by me. From the letter it will be seen that refugees and deserters from the rebel Confederacy are engaged in the manufacture of Greek fire at Windsor, in Canada, to facilitate their incendiary purposes. With regard to attacks from armed bodies of rebels, I feel much less apprehensive than from individual efforts to burn and plunder our cities, as my means of information are such that I hope to be able to anticipate the former. It is almost unnecessary for me to add that I have enjoined unceasing vigilance and activity on the part of the military and civil authorities throughout my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN,
Detroit, Mich., December 3, 1861.Capt. C. H. POTTER,
Asst. Adj. Gen., Hdqrs. Northern Dept., Cincinnati, Ohio:

SIR: I have the honor to report that from information I have received I am satisfied that very extensive preparations are being made

Canada for burning not only cities on the lakes, but others; and it is very necessary that great precaution and vigilance should be observed everywhere. I have the assurance that Creek fire is being prepared in Windsor. Buffalo, Cleveland, and this city will be the principal cities to be burned, and there will be armed attempts to rob and plunder; Cincinnati and Louisville are also mentioned. I am also informed that by some means a large number of rebel soldiers have been introduced into Canada; some, it is said, have been furloughed, and have made their way through the lines. I have at this time very excellent means of obtaining information, and the only apprehension I have is that the persons in my employ may fail me at the last moment. In this city I have called the attention of the hotel keepers to the necessity of observing great vigilance in regard to their guests, and the hotels are daily visited by a secret agent in my employ.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. H. HILL,

Lieut. Col. Fifth U. S. Artillery, Comdg. District of Michigan.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, December 6, 1861—11.15 a. m.

Col. B. J. SWEET,

Commanding Camp Douglas, Ill.:

The writ of habeas corpus has been suspended by proclamation of the President in all cases arrested by or charged with any offense against the Government when the officer having custody of the person makes affidavit that he is so held.

C. H. POTTER,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHICAGO, ILL., December 6, 1861.

Major-General HOOKER:

The undersigned, having been appointed a committee with reference to public safety, would respectfully urge your presence here. Matters of the utmost importance in connection with the recent arrests seem to demand prompt and early action. Please answer in regard to your coming.

GEO. SCHNEIDER.

PETER PAGE.

S. JOHN.

J. L. HANCOCK.

C. P. J. ARCON.

CHAS. C. WICKER.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, December 6, 1861—11.15 a. m.

Lieut. Col. B. H. HILL,

Commanding District of Michigan, Detroit:

Can you learn the locality in Windsor in which the preparations in speak of in your letter of the 3d instant are being made?

J. HOOKER,

Major-General, Commanding.

DETROIT, December 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH HOOKER:

I cannot give the place, but I am informed that some of the preparations were purchased in this city. I believe I will have a clue to whole affair.

B. H. HILL,
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Army.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

You remember that when Steele was relieved by Canby he was ordered to Cairo to report to this Department. What shall be done with him? The order superseding Rosecrans by Dodge has been issued. Thomas seems unwilling to attack because it is hazardous, as if all war was anything but hazardous. If he waits for Wilson to get ready, Gabriel will be blowing his last horn.

EDWIN M. STANTON,

CITY POINT, VA., December 7, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War:

You probably saw my order to Thomas to attack. If he does not do it promptly, I would recommend superseding him by Schofield, leaving Thomas subordinate. Steele is an admirable corps commander, and I would say order him to report to Canby until there is an opening to put him in command of a corps. I would have no objection [and] would like General Steele appointed to command of Ninth Corps, and General Parke ordered to report to General Canby.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant General.

CITY POINT, VA., December 7, 1864—2 p. m.

(Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General THOMAS:

The Richmond Sentinel of to-day has the following quotation:

Intelligence received yesterday from East Tennessee announces the advance of Hurbidge from Kentucky, which was met on the part of General Breckinridge by a retrograde movement to Greenville, in order to protect his communications with the rear.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 7, 1864—10 p. m.

(Received 3.30 p. m. 8th.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,

City Point, Va.

Your dispatch of 5 p. m. this day is just received. Major-General Stoneman telegraphed me yesterday that Breckinridge had fallen back. I have directed Stoneman to pursue him as far as he can into Virginia, breaking and destroying twenty-five or thirty miles of railroad, and also to destroy the salt-works if possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 7, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLER, *Washington, D. C.:*

The enemy has not increased his force in our front. Have sent gun-boats up the river above Carthage; one returned to-day and reported no signs of the enemy on the river bank from forty miles above Carthage to this place. Captain Fitch, U. S. Navy, started down the river yesterday with a convey of transport steamers, but was unable to get them down, the enemy having planted three batteries on a bend of the river between this and Clarksville. Captain Fitch was unable to silence all three of the batteries yesterday, and will return again to-morrow morning, and, with the assistance of the Cincinnati, now at Clarksville, I am in hopes will now be able to clear them out. So far the enemy have not materially injured the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SAINT LOUIS, December 7, 1864—11 a. m.

Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of 6th instant, 12.25 p. m., duly received. Fourth Missouri Cavalry will be sent with the rest of Winslow's cavalry.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 7, 1864.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Saint Louis, Mo.:

Your dispatch of 6th instant is received. Send the Forty-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteers to this place by boat. Please inform me how the remounting of Winslow's cavalry is progressing and when the division can start for this place; it should be here as soon as possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SAINT LOUIS, December 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteers will join immediately. Winslow's cavalry will begin to move for Nashville to-morrow, so the commanding officer says.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

CLARKSVILLE, December 7, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Are coaling. Where is Fitch? Please acquaint him with my arrival. Shall ascend as far as the fast falling river allows.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

NASHVILLE, December 7, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Admiral M. P. Lee, *Clarksville*.

Your dispatch of 8 p. m. is just received. Captain Fitch is here, and will go down the river at daylight to-morrow morning as far as Harpeth Shoals.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. Whipple,

Chief of Staff, Headquarters Department of the Cumberland.

GENERAL: The following copy of a telegram just received is furnished you for the information of the major general commanding:

Nashville, Ky., December 7, 1864.

General Donahoe arrived this morning. Please inform General Thomas that he will leave for Nashville soon as possible.

JOSEPH ALLEN,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES F. RUSLING,
Capt. and Asst. Qm., Asst. Chf. Qm., Dept. of the Cumberland.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 315, Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

IV. Brig. Gen. K. Garrard, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty with the Second Cavalry Division, and will report in person to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding the Detachment Army of the Tennessee, for assignment to duty.

V. Paragraph 1, Special Field Orders, No. 313, current series, from these headquarters, assigning Maj. Gen. D. S. Couch, U. S. Volunteers, to duty with the Fourth Army Corps, is hereby revoked. Major-General Couch will report in person to Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield, commanding Twenty-third Army Corps, for assignment to duty.

VI. Colonel Doolittle, Eighteenth Michigan Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty with Brigadier-General Miller, commanding post, and will report for temporary duty to Brigadier-General Cox, commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your telegram of the 6th instant received this morning. I should readily serve wherever I am ordered, but cannot, of my own accord, take a position that would throw me into a lesser command.

D. S. COUCH.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I made a thorough examination of the entire front of the Fourth Corps late this afternoon, with a view, first, to advancing the picket-line and, secondly, to developing, if possible, whether the enemy is in force in our immediate front. The examination led me to the conclusion that I could advance the picket line on the right and left of the fortified ridge immediately in front of Colonel Straight's brigade, without much trouble or loss; but immediately in front of that ridge the skirmishers on both sides, in their intrenched holes, are only a short distance apart, and no advance, except in force, could be made with any hope of success. To take the ridge would necessarily be a much more serious affair than merely advancing the picket-line, and would probably require the movement of a considerable part of a division at least, if it is occupied with a force proportionate to the apparent strength of the works on it. It would be useless to advance the picket-line on the right and left of the ridge, beyond it, without also taking it, for the enemy remaining on the ridge could flank our advanced lines to the right and left of it. I consequently concluded, after a full examination, that it would not be judicious to make any movement of the picket line this afternoon, and think it may not be judicious to make any movement until we are ready for final and decisive work. I rode out on the Hillsborough pike as far as our picket line, and the examination strengthened the opinion that the enemy's intrenchments do not extend farther toward [sic] than the most westerly point of the ridge immediately in front of Colonel Straight's brigade. My opinion is that his works terminate on that ridge with a very short return, bearing in a southwesterly direction.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,

Brigadier General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Division commanders will at once have subsistence trains loaded to their utmost capacity with the following articles: Full ration of bread, sugar, coffee, salt, and salt meat, in proportion of two days in seven. Trains will be kept constantly loaded ready for an instantaneous movement. Arrangements will also be made so that, without interfering with the stores in trains, the troops may be constantly supplied with three days' rations. The remainder of the meat ration, five out of every seven days, will be carried on the hoof, and commissaries must make necessary arrangements for the cattle. Ordnance trains must be filled to their utmost capacity, and must be constantly supplied with sixty rounds in cartridge-boxes. Ten days' forage, at the rate of six pounds to the animal, will be kept constantly on hand, except for the artillery, which will take full forage. The order in regard to allowance of six pounds per animal will not apply while in camp. Animals will get full forage while the command is in camp.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

WM. H.
Assistant

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

December 7, 1864.

Col. A. D. STREIGHT,

First Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed to recall the order announcing Major-General Couch as in command of the corps. If you have promulgated it to your regiments, please recall it.

By order of Brigadier General Beatty:

M. P. HESTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HIGHER ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 173, } Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

VIII. The Twenty-sixth Kentucky Infantry is hereby assigned to the First Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps.

IX. The Twenty-eighth Michigan Infantry is hereby assigned to the Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps. The division commander will assign it to a brigade.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Indorsement on General Schofield's report of December 7, 1864.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army, cordially recommending the gallantry and skill of Major-General Schofield to the commendation of the War Department.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HQRS. FIRST BRIG., DIV. 17TH A. C.,
No. 1. } Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 93, headquarters Division Seventeenth Army Corps, of this date, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the First Brigade, Division Seventeenth Army Corps. The following is announced as the organization of the brigade staff: Adjt. John M. Read, Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. George H. Carter, Thirty-third Wisconsin Infantry, acting assistant inspector general; First Lieut. O. R. Potter, Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, acting assistant quartermaster.

L. M. WARD,
Colonel Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry.

* See Part I, p. 341.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JAMES B. STEEDMAN:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that, as Colonel Thompson has reported to you with his command, the Sixth Indiana Cavalry be relieved from your command and directed to report to Brig. Gen. R. W. Johnson, or Brevet Major-General Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. STEEDMAN,
Commanding:

Give me the result of your morning's operations. The enemy in my front quiet, except strengthening their works when it can be done out of effective range of artillery; seem to be making preparations for planting artillery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BRAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to state for the information of Major-General Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps, that I have established a ferry at a point just above the railroad bridge, known as Brown's Ferry, and that the same is now ready to cross cavalry or infantry with their trains, the flat-chess ferry-boat Metamora having been detailed for that purpose. This in addition to the pontoon bridge, which promises to be done by to-night.

Very respectfully,

JAS. F. RUSLING,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, and
Acting Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Col. G. G. MINER,
Commanding Cavalry Depot:

COLONEL: Please inform me whether the Chicago Board of Trade Battery is equipped and ready for the field. Has it horses, &c.? If it is not direct the commanding officer to hand in his requisitions and fit out the battery at once.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BRAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
 No. 30. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 Nashville, December 7, 1864.

L. Mont, F. G. Smith, commanding Battery I, Fourth Artillery, having reported in accordance with Special Field Orders, No. 333, extract II, headquarters Department of the Cumberland, December 6, 1864, is hereby assigned to duty with the Sixth Cavalry Division, Military Division of the Mississippi, and will report to Brig. Gen. W. W. Johnson, commanding.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:
 E. H. REAUMONT,
 Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
 MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 Memphis, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Chief of Cavalry, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Major-General Dana has just arrived, and I have at last obtained the order for one brigade of my command to proceed to Nashville. The troops are now embarking. I have also received dispatch from Saint Louis that the detachment of the brigade at that point has been remounted and equipped and would leave there to-day. The other brigade, consisting of the Second New Jersey, Seventh Indiana, Fourth Missouri, and First Mississippi, as well as the cavalry at Vicksburg, has been retained here by General Dana's order. As soon as the troops which are to go are all under way, I will proceed to Nashville and report to you in person.

Respectfully, your obedient servant.

H. H. GRIERSON,
 Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 9, 1864.

As the above was being inclosed I received an order to suspend the embarkation of the cavalry. A few hours afterward I was ordered to continue the embarkation, and still a few hours later I received Special Orders, No. 1, from General Dana's headquarters, ordering me to remain in Memphis with my command until further orders. I think the detention is made in accordance with some orders from Washington received by General Dana. I will write you as soon as any change occurs.

Respectfully, &c.,

H. H. GRIERSON,
 Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
 Saint Louis, December 7, 1864.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

SIR: Have been delayed in getting horses; now mounted by order from Washington. Shall I proceed to join you via Louisville, or proceed to Nashville directly? Boats are here in readiness to transport us to Nashville. Please answer. Address 331 Franklin avenue.

F. W. BENTEN,
 Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires to know if Lieutenant Smith, with his battery of the Fourth Artillery, has reported to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

Lieutenant Smith reported yesterday and brought his battery over to-day. I have instructed him to draw some more horses, so as to make the battery able to go where and when cavalry can go.

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 7, 1864.

Col. JAMES BIDDLES,
Commanding Sixth Indiana Cavalry:

General Johnson directs me to say that orders have been issued from the headquarters of Major General Thomas some days since requiring you to report with your regiment at these headquarters. He desires you to report without delay, in order that so much as is practicable during the present delay here may be done toward refitting you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. T. WELLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GUN-BOAT BRILLIANT, No. 18,
Cairo, December 7, 1864—12 m.

Maj. E. H. HEADMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps, Nashville, Tenn.:

MAJOR: I have just returned from a thorough scouring of the country, from the lower Gashita landing back five miles and around to this place. At the same time I sent a strong party under Colonel Jackson, Ninth Indiana Cavalry, into Lebanon. The information obtained by my party and his, after sitting and allowances, amounts to the same thing, viz: Breckinridge is expected at Lebanon with a large force, and is supposed to be now somewhere about Sparta on his way; and that Bille has been near Lebanon, but has gone, not known where certainly. The only force now in front of me is guerrilla, which pickets the river and watches me. There are a good many of them, also a number of rebel soldiers in squads of two or three. The force that chased my scouts on Sunday was citizens. The nearest large force we could hear of is one on Stone's River, supposed to be part of Cheatham's command. I heard from Sparta direct yesterday and day before; no force there then, or as far up as Livingston. I found the country all the way to Lebanon cleaned of horses; all run off to the rebel army; we only obtained eight of any account. Could find no indications of pontoons, only rumors, and only one spot yet to examine. I believe that it would be well to have a depot amosite the mouth of Stone's River; the citi-

zens are impressed with the idea of a make there, and it will be no harm to watch. Three of my horse-purchasing parties have not returned. I suppose that finding few horses they have gone clear into Kentucky, as they had orders "to bring horses." A portion of my men went out from Carthage to-day, and this, with the movement here, will probably produce the impression of a movement in force. The aid of a gun-boat or transport at any time you may desire it will enable me to examine the country in person. I can't trust scouts at all, and the wildest rumors prevail. All movement of crossing between here and Carthage is by this time destroyed. My force crossed on the gun-boat. But two prisoners brought in.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,

Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 7, 1864.

Col. A. A. SMITH,

Clarksville:

What news have you of matters about Clarksville? Have the gun-boats arrived at Clarksville yet, and what news have they of the enemy? Give me a full report of all that has transpired since your last dispatch.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 7, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Gun-boats have not arrived. Forty second Missouri went to Fort Donelson yesterday. Rebel General Lyon is between the rivers somewhere, with from 1000 to 2,000 men—reported. I sent scouts yesterday; they did not discover his location. There are five transports here and one hospital boat. General Cooper's command moved this a. m. for Nashville.

A. A. SMITH,

Colonel, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 7, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

Six transports and gun-boat Cincinnati have just arrived. There being about 350 men, detachments, will send them by rail, if not otherwise ordered.

A. A. SMITH,

Colonel, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 7, 1864—9 p. m.

Col. A. A. SMITH,

Clarksville:

Send the detachments referred to in your dispatch of this p. m. by rail, as proposed.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SWEETWATER, *December 7, 1864—7.15 p. m.*

Brigadier-General AMMEN:

Reliable man just in from near Madisonville reports between 75 and 150 rebels approaching Madisonville, and were at 4 o'clock within three miles of town. Captain Lyons, in command of the forces there, was then hurrying off his stores toward London. It was reported rebels intended striking railroad at Sweetwater to-night. I have twelve men here with arms, but no ammunition. There is considerable corn stored here; also two cars on siding. Can you send some men from London to-night?

G. M. LYONS,
Agent and Operator.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *December 7, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: A delegation of prominent citizens of Kentucky are now upon their way to Washington to urge upon you a change of policy in the military administration of their State. In view of which, I have the honor to submit the following conclusions relative to such administration at which I have arrived, after consultation with many influential citizens of different localities and of conflicting opinions:

I.—THE CONDITION OF THE STATE.

There is scarcely any security for person or property. In nearly every county guerrillas are destroying the property and taking the lives of all who have been, or now are, in the U. S. armies. The citizens are so bitterly arrayed against each other as to afford immunity, if not assistance, to these desperadoes, for each party is glad to see men of the other murdered. From this intestine hatred guerrillas have their origin and maintenance.

II.—TEMPER OF THE PEOPLE.

Kentucky remained in the Union to preserve slavery and avoid becoming the theater of war, although strongly in sympathy with the rebellious States. Being humored and favored for the first two years, many people avowed their devotion to the Union; but the moment that Government attempted to draft men or enlist negroes, the true feeling of these people was evinced. They resisted our officers, and became more violent in their denunciations of the administration than the original rebels. A large majority of Kentuckians are to-day undoubtedly disloyal.

III.—CHARACTER OF TROOPS IN KENTUCKY.

The forces consist almost entirely of regiments raised in the State for the term of one year's service within the State. They are generally distributed in very small detachments as soon as organized—never serving together as regiments. As a rule, their officers have little capacity and are entirely ignorant of their duties. There is neither drill nor discipline among the men; they are merely a uniformed mob. Serving at home with their local prejudices, they regard their own

interests instead of the country's. They do little to punish guerrillas—much against personal enemies. They capture few men in arms, but show their zeal in seizing unarmed people. They plunder largely at their own discretion. As a natural result their victims, with all their friends, become exasperated against the Government, and thus the very troops it employs to serve it prove its worst enemies. Not a regiment raised in Kentucky might to serve in the State.

IV.—CIVIL ADMINISTRATION IN KENTUCKY.

Governor Bramlette prefers union to rebellion, but he loves slavery also. He has slender capacity, great vanity, and greater ambition. He hopes to gratify his aspirations for election to U. S. Senate by yielding to the pressure brought upon him from the slave interests in the State. He knows his people are disloyal, and so qualifies his Unionism. His advisers do not conceal their hostility to enlisting negroes. The Governor's policy is simply self first, State second, Union last. But he has not backbone enough to make a direct issue with the Administration; therefore its policy need not be affected in any way by his views.

V.—MILITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Realizing the difficulties surrounding the military administration of affairs in this State, General Bullock has relied much upon the advice of others. Their prejudices and interests have at times led him astray, but his administration has been mainly a good one. He has shown some vacillation, attributable, no doubt, to his relying upon others. In matters purely military he appears to be somewhat lax. Everything seems to be in confusion. After making every allowance for the inefficiency of field and line officers under his command, there is evident want of capacity or energy. He is now heartily hated by a majority of people in the State, but that signifies nothing if he put such a policy stringent and impartial. In all I have heard there is nothing to demand his removal, but the substitution of a man stronger in capacity and character would be an advantage.

VI.—SUGGESTIONS AS TO POLICY.

First. It is absolutely necessary to crush out the guerrillas in the State. This may be effected by placing in each exposed county 10 good troops from another State, mounted and well officered.

Second. All troops raised in Kentucky should be assigned to duty elsewhere. They would become efficient, and there would be no objection to the Governor's organizing and officering them, and thus a great cause of complaint upon his part would be removed. No troop should be allowed in State service.

Third. Noisy and active sympathizers with rebels and rebellion should be dealt with most rigorously. Offenses should be clearly proved and after proof, no relenting. Every distinction should be made in favor of active and tried Union men.

Fourth. The policy of the Administration should be rigidly enforced and Kentucky feel herself governed, as she now is not either by civil military authorities. If the Governor should array himself against the Administration, there should be no hesitancy in superseding him.

Very respectfully submitted, and I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

E. H. LUDINGTON,
Assistant Inspector General

TUNNEL HILL, December 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General MEAGHER:

I have just received the following telegram:

RINGGOLD, December 7, 1864.

I have just learned Wharton's brigade of cavalry are three miles northeast of Parker's Gap, en route for this place. The information is creditable and from good authority.

J. E. C. GOVELL,
Lieutenant, Commanding.

Have you any instructions? Please answer.

M. G. HAMILTON,
Major, Commanding Post.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, December 7, 1864—11:30 a. m.

J. L. HANCOCK, Esq.,
President Chicago Board of Trade, Chicago, Ill.:

Official engagements will prevent my leaving for Chicago before to-morrow morning; unless a pressing necessity exists I should not leave then. Answer.

J. HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, December 7, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. JOHN W. SKILES,
Fort Barracks, Columbus, Ohio:

Where is the organized band that is to attempt to burn the bridges on the Little Miami Railroad, or any part of them? If there are any such men in this department the general wants to know it and where they can be found. Answer.

C. H. POTTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, December 7, 1864.

Capt. C. H. POTTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The superintendent of the Columbus and Piqua Railroad applied to me yesterday evening for a guard to send to one of their important bridges, saying that Mr. Clement, superintendent of Little Miami Railroad, had informed the railroad authorities here that this band was organized for the destruction of bridges on all the roads in Ohio; he did not give any other information. I presume Mr. Clement can give all the facts. The statement I sent by mail yesterday of what was going on here may have something to do with this.

JOHN W. SKILES,
Major and Provost Marshal, City of Columbus.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 8, 1864—1,30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point, Va. :*

Last returns from Department of Missouri exhibit a force present for duty (exclusive of A. J. Smith's forces) of about 19,000 men, of which about 6,000 were in and around Saint Louis. Requisitions have just been received for \$20,000, to construct new barracks for the accommodation of troops in Saint Louis. From all the information I can get, Saint Louis is in no more danger of an insurrection than Chicago, Philadelphia, or New York, and that troops are required there only for the defense of the public stores and for prison guards. Moreover, that Missouri is not in the slightest danger of an invasion this winter. I therefore respectfully suggest that now the commanding officer has been changed, 5,000 men from that department can be sent to General Thomas at Nashville. In case of any real difficulty in Missouri they can readily be returned. As General Rawlins (your chief of staff) has recently visited Saint Louis, I submit the matter for your consideration.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 8, 1864—1 p. m.*

(Received 5.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington :*

Please direct General Dodge to send all the troops he can spare to General Thomas. With such an order he may be relied on to send all that can properly go. They had probably better be sent to Louisville, for I fear either Hood or Breckinridge will get to the Ohio River. I will submit whether it is not advisable to call on Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois for 60,000 men for thirty days. If Thomas has not struck yet, he ought to be ordered to hand over his command to Schofield. There is no better man to repel an attack than Thomas, but I fear he is too cautious to ever take the initiative.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 8, 1864—9 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point :*

If you wish General Thomas relieved from command, give the order. No one here will, I think, interfere. The responsibility, however, will be yours, as no one here, so far as I am informed, wishes General Thomas' removal.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 8, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington :*

Your dispatch of 9 p. m. just received. I want General Thomas reminded of the importance of immediate action. I sent him a dispatch this evening which will probably urge him on. I would not say relieve him until I hear further from him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 8, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn. :

Your dispatch of yesterday received. It looks to me evident the enemy are trying to cross the Cumberland River and are scattered. Why not attack at once? By all means avoid the contingency of a foot race to see which, you or Hood, can beat to the Ohio. If you think necessary, call on the Governors of States to send a force into Louisville to meet the enemy if he should cross the river. You clearly never should cross except in rear of the enemy. Now is one of the finest opportunities ever presented of destroying one of the three armies of the enemy. If destroyed, he never can replace it. Use the means at your command, and you can do this and cause a rejoicing that will resound from one end of the land to another.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 8, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C. :

No material change has been discovered in the enemy's position to-day. He attempted to advance his picket line on the Franklin road, but was driven back. With every exertion on the part of General Wilson, he will not be able to get his force of cavalry in condition to move before Sunday. I have a report from the river as high up as Carthage; no body of the enemy can be seen or heard of. I also have information that there is no crossing between Carthage and Albany, Ky. There are two iron clads above Harpeth Shoals, on the Cumberland River, and Admiral Lee is at Clarksville with the Cincinnati. I have requested him to patrol the river from Clarksville to Harpeth, so as to discover and effectually prevent any attempt of the enemy to cross below.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 8, 1864—9 p. m.*

Major-General DODGE,
Saint Louis :

Send all the troops you can spare to General Thomas by such route as you may deem best. They can be returned to you when required. I think 5,000 men can be spared from Missouri.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 8, 1864—8 p. m.*

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

No change in position since last report. Enemy still in force in front, as was found out by reconnaissance, and a large artillery force upon south bank of the Cumberland below, between here and the Shoals. One of our gun-boats came to grief in exchange of iron at Bell's

Ferry. Rebel General Lyon holds same back below Harpeth, to Fort Donelson, but does not fight gun boats. Reinforcements now at Clarksville; will reach here by railroad to-morrow night. Colonel Thompson's black brigade reached here yesterday, having come from Johnsonville, via Clarksville. Deserters report Hood's headquarters seven miles out on Hillsborough pike; Forrest three miles on Granny White road, with main army on same road nearer town.

J. C. VAN DUZER,

NASHVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Admiral S. P. LEE,

Clarksville:

I have just received a report from Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, who says he is informed that the enemy have crossed the river below Harpeth. I will be much obliged, if the Cincinnati can get up to the Harpeth Shoals, if you patrol the river between Clarksville and Harpeth Shoals and destroy their pontoon bridge, if they have one laid down. I shall thank you if you will ascertain the truth of the report of the enemy's crossing the river.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Best pilots here report five feet four inches on Harpeth Shoals and river falling rapidly, especially below. My pilots urge that this heavy vessel cannot get up, and cannot get over the bars below, unless she moves down immediately. Please ascertain if there is a reasonable prospect of a rise from above. Do you wish convey down given to transports now here, or shall they stay, irrespective of my movements, which must be governed by the stage of the river? Cincinnati must not be caught above the bars.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

Quartermaster Donaldson's dispatch to Captain Williams just shown me. From want of water the Cincinnati cannot remain here, and there is no other gun-boat here. Your final disposition in regard to transports should be promptly made. I move down now.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Please reply to my offer.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral.

NASHVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,

Commanding Mississippi Squadron, Clarksville, Tenn.:

Your two dispatches just received. Under the circumstances I think it would be advisable to take the transports down with you, and will be obliged if you will convoy them.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN., December 8, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Since telegraphing you I have seen the harbor master, who informed me that this vessel cannot cross Davis' Ripple, and my pilots state that, unless I go down immediately, this deep draught vessel cannot get out of the river, and will, in all probability, have to remain all winter. I therefore now return down the river. Have seen the colonel commanding and offered to convoy what transports he may wish to send away, though General Donaldson's telegram provides for keeping them here. I will attend to General Lyon's force, which I am informed will attempt to cross the river below here. I deeply regret not having met a rise to allow a junction of my force to co-operate against the batteries which are now inaccessible to my iron clads.

S. P. LEE,
Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Telegram received. I will take the convoy down as you desire, or will remain to take the chance of wintering here, if you think it justifiable.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Your telegram received. I will cheerfully remain here, as you desire. Please inform Lieutenant-Commander Fitch, who has not communicated with me to-day, as he proposed, of this. Can you send a cipher operator here?

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 8, 1864—5.30

Admiral S. P. LEE,

I regret not having received them sooner. As I write this your dispatch of 4.45 p. m. has just been handed me from telegraph office. Will inform Lieutenant Commander Fitch as you request, and will send you a cipher operator if they have one here.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, F. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

I am in telegraph office to talk with you and settle on place. I will stay here most willingly, taking chance of wintering here, if you think best or even wish it.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

NASHVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron, Clarksville, Tenn.:

General Thomas is out on the lines. General Whipple has taken your dispatches to him, and will answer you soon as possible—in an hour, at outside.

Very respectfully,

HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron, Clarksville, Tenn.:

I have just come in, and will be happy to talk with you.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 8, 1864.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron, Clarksville, Tenn.:

I was out on the lines when your dispatch came. I will be greatly obliged if you will remain until we get rid of the enemy, or until the river rises.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your two telegrams of 5.30 and 7 p. m. just received. I am informed here that this iron-clad cannot cross Davis' Ripple, which is fifteen miles from here and considered the foot of Harpeth Shoals. My pilot says Cumberland River shoals gradually from Davis' Ripple, where there are now seven feet, rather less than we draw, to Harpeth River, and th

head of Harpeth Shoals is two miles farther up, at Harpeth Island, where the shoalest water is, but it runs swiftly there. It is unfortunate that the enemy is now inaccessible to the iron-clads along an extent of seventeen miles. If I move up to Davis' Ripple this place will be left exposed, and I am told the water runs swiftly there, which would not be as favorable to crossing as some intermediate portions of the shoals with landings and with roads leading to and from it. I will, however, reconnoiter to the foot of the shoal, if desired. It is likely the enemy would cross at the landing marked Williams on the map and called Hinton's, on the lower point of Harpeth River.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

NASHVILLE, December 9 [8], 1864.

Admiral S. P. LEE,

Clarksville:

Your dispatch of 8.45 p. m. is received. It was not my intention in requesting to have the river patrolled up to Harpeth to wish the gun-boat to remain there, but simply that the position be reconnoitered, so as to ascertain whether there was any truth in the reported crossing of the enemy below Harpeth. I shall be obliged to you if you will have the river patrolled as proposed, and I will request Lieutenant-Commander Fitch to have the same done from this point down to Harpeth.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

U. S. STEAMER NEOSHO,

Robinson's Island, December 8, 1864.

MAJ. GEN. GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Commanding Army of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: There is a portion of the enemy—cavalry, I think—across the river, and I suppose foraging; the force is represented to be pretty strong. They were moving up the river to strike the Springfield pike, taking cattle and everything within reach. They crossed well down the river, below the mouth of Harpeth, I am told. The water is getting so low that I cannot get down that far with the heavy boats. I asked the admiral by telegraph this morning to let the Cincinnati come up as far as possible; she ought to get near that point. I will go down as far as possible with these boats, but fear I cannot more than reach Ashland. If I get aground the boats will be useless, as the river is falling so fast that I fear we cannot get off again before a rise. I will have to move down without the company of soldiers, as it would not now be safe for only one company to venture on the reconnaissance. I will try to get back as soon as possible, but may be detained a day or two, but, if possible, will get to where they crossed, and if there is a pontoon will destroy it. I could not stop to gather further information, as I wished to get the word to you as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LE ROY F.

Lieut. Commander, Comdg. Tenth District, Miss.

[First Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, who will cause the within statement to be fully investigated and its truthfulness ascertained.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second Indorsement.]

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Brig. Gen. R. W. Johnson, commanding Sixth Division, for investigation and report, to be returned with these papers.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

[Third Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Copy furnished to Colonel Harrison, commanding First Brigade, with directions to send out a sufficient party, in command of a reliable officer, to investigate this report and report as soon as possible.

E. T. WELLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

U. S. STEAMER SHIVER LAKE,
December 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding Army of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: The gun-boats Brilliant and Springfield have just returned from up river. There is no force on the river between this point and Carthage. Brockbridge is reported at Sparta with about 3,000 men, though with what reliability we cannot say.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. A. GLASSFORD,
Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, U. S. Navy.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General WHIPPLE:

Dispatch* just received. Will be in immediately.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

* See Ramsey to Schofield, p. 103.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Major Dawson, inspector of pickets, reports that the appearance of the enemy's lines, their fires, &c., are the same this morning as on previous days, but that there is less firing, which may be accounted for by the sharp cold of the morning and from the fact that the lines have been so near each other for several days.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. B. STEEDMAN:

Appearances in my front the same as when you were with me to-day.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 8, 1864.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that he desires to see you at these headquarters at 10 o'clock this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY.

(Same to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, Maj. Gen. James B. Steedman, and Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Wood.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
[December 8, 1864.]

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

The major-general commanding desires to see yourself and General Ruger at these headquarters this evening. Please notify General Ruger.

Respectfully,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } U. S. ARMY OF THE OHIO.
No. 174. } *In the Field, Nashville, Tenn.,*
December 8, 1864.

II. Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Ruger, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from the command of the Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and assigned to the command of the First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, which division he will proceed to organize with as little delay as practicable.

III. Maj. Gen. D. N. Couch, U. S. Volunteers, having reported at these headquarters for duty, is hereby assigned to the command of the Second Division, Twenty-Third Army Corps.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 8, 1864.

General W. H. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Appearance on our front same as yesterday. All quiet.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, 1. HIGGS, DETACH, ARMY OF THE TENN.,
No. 19, Nashville, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

The Sixteenth Army Corps as a corps organization having been discontinued by orders from the War Department, the troops heretofore reported to Right Wing, Sixteenth Army Corps, will hereafter be known as "The Detachment of the Army of the Tennessee." The organization of the divisions will not be changed: First Division, Brig. Gen. J. McArthur commanding; Second Division (Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps), Brigadier-General Garrard commanding; Third Division, Col. J. B. Moore commanding. All reports and returns will be made to these headquarters, as required by existing orders.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith:

J. HUGHES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HIGGS, FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

Capt. W. H. F. RANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with instructions of the general commanding, received yesterday, I have the honor to report that during the day yesterday the enemy in front of my command maintained about the same positions and in about the same numbers as for several days past. During the night he withdrew the two pieces of artillery with which he opened on us the day before. Yesterday morning I moved one of my Rodman guns out to the skirmish line, and shelled their reserve picket-posts with evident effect, as they moved their horses to the rear. During the night everything was quiet, and no movements of the enemy have been seen or reported this morning. A report this morning received from the officer in command of the cavalry on the Charlotte side says the enemy's pickets occupy the same position they did yesterday.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

W. L. McMILLLEN,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,
ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 8, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Capt. W. H. F. RANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant General, First Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report as follows regarding the situation in my front during the past twenty-four hours:

There has been no body of the enemy seen except the detachment of cavalry, which seems to be upon picket duty about three miles out on the Charlottesville pike. I made an effort to throw shell among them during the forenoon yesterday, from the position occupied by the Second Iowa Battery, but was unable to effect anything. A larger number of the enemy's picket lines were observable last night than at any time previous, owing, perhaps, to the increased severity of the weather. An unusual degree of quiet prevailed all night. My pickets report that no shots were heard after 8 o'clock yesterday evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. F. HUBBARD,
Colonel, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, / HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
No. 25. / DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 154, headquarters Detachment Army of the Tennessee, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Second Division, Detachment Army of the Tennessee, late Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps. The staff and existing orders will remain unchanged until further orders.

K. GARRARD,
Brigadier General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

Col. J. B. MOORE,
Commanding Third Division:

COLONEL: The major general commanding directs me to state that the U. S. steamer *Moose* (a tin clad) will be at the extremity of your lines on the river, and he desires that you send one large company of infantry on board, with one day's rations, as a guard for the boat. The boat will return to day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, December 8, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

In regard to the report concerning the presence of a force of rebel cavalry on the north side of the Cumberland, an officer of General Knipe's command, in from Clarksburg to-day, says he heard very generally through the country that only a small force of scouts, not to ex-

ceed fifty men, had crossed the river. He doesn't think any more have crossed. I have, however, directed General Johnson to investigate the matter fully.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 8, 1864--7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: After conference with my division commanders, I have to state, for the information of the major-general commanding, that the cavalry force cannot be assembled and put in a proper condition to move in a general campaign before Sunday afternoon. There are 3,000 well-mounted men absent, some of whom cannot get back [before] to-morrow night, and when they do arrive will be necessarily considerably jaded. The horses they bring will require shoeing, and some time to issue. If the parties impressing have been ordinarily successful, by waiting until Sunday our force will be materially increased, say 3,000 men. Brigadier General Croxton informs me that it will be almost impossible for La Grange's brigade to get here before Saturday night. If, in consideration of all these facts, the major-general commanding determines to delay the movement till Monday, be good enough to inform me at your earliest convenience, in order that I may continue my efforts to make the cavalry force efficient. If he does not so decide, I shall have to begin crossing the river to-morrow at noon, and all arrangements not completed must necessarily be indefinitely postponed. I will see the major-general commanding early to-morrow morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

Lieut. JOSEPH HEDGER, *Commanding Fourth U. S. Cavalry:*

LIEUTENANT: The brevet major-general commanding directs that you send fifty men from your command, under a competent officer, with instructions to take all the hack, omnibus, and carriage horses in Nashville that are suitable for cavalry purposes. Adams Express Company horses are exempted. These horses will be brought to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Memphis, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

Col. E. F. WINKLOW,
Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Memphis, Tenn.:

SIR: You will proceed, on City of Cairo, this evening, to Cairo, Ill., and from thence forward, by telegraph, the dispatch* handed you for

* See Vol. XLI, Part IV, p. 799.

Major-General Halleck, Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, and wait an answer, proceeding, however, to Saint Louis, Louisville, or elsewhere, if found necessary, to accomplish the objects of your mission.

Should the detachments of Fourth Missouri and Seventh Indiana Cavalry, now in Missouri, arrive at Cairo, you will cause them to be immediately embarked for Memphis. If the portions of the Fourth, Third Iowa, and Tenth Missouri Cavalry, now supposed to be en route from Saint Louis, should arrive at Cairo, you will cause their detention at Cairo until orders are received from Washington in regard to them; should they have already passed Cairo for Louisville, you will telegraph the fact to Major-General Halleck. The commanding officer at Cairo will afford all necessary assistance and give necessary orders for securing transportation, &c. You will report proceedings by letter from day to day, and in person when this duty is accomplished, to these headquarters.

By order of Major-General Dana:

T. H. HARRIS,

Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 8, 1864.

Adj. Col. A. J. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: I have just received a dispatch from Lieutenant Colonel Ford, commanding Fifth Iowa Cavalry, dated Hopkinsville, Ky., yesterday, as follows:

"I have just arrived here. I have three companies yet out, but am expecting them to-night. I cannot reach Nashville earlier than Saturday evening."

"I have telegraphed him to use all possible expedition to be here by tomorrow noon."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. JOHNSON,

Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HQ. FIRST REGT., SEVENTH DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
Cole's Ferry Road, Gallatin, December 8, 1864.

Adj. E. B. BEAUMONT:

My command, all that I can reach, will be well out on the Nashville road to-day; will concentrate at Edgefield to-morrow evening.

J. H. HAMMOND,

Brevet Brigadier-General.

GALLATIN, December 8, 1864.

Adj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

Have been into Lebanon. Breckinridge expected and supposed to be somewhere near Sparta, now doubtful. Rifle gone from Lebanon; not known where. No reliable information from Murfreesborough. Part of Cheatham's division supposed to be there and along Stone's River. No pontoons. Guerrilla forces picket in my front.

J. H. HAMMOND,

Brevet Brigadier-General.

STEVENSON, December 8, 1864.

Capt. HENRY A. FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General:

General Granger desires to inform General Meagher that he has assumed no control over the telegraph office at this post. Colonel Krzyzanowski is in command of the post, and the general's communication has been referred to him. Stevenson has been placed within the command of Northern Alabama, by command of General Thomas, and I have confirmed Colonel Krzyzanowski in command of post. I presume that he, no more than myself, is aware that the wires have been used to convey the impertinent message referred to in the general's communication.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, ()
No. 50, ()

HUGHES, DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH,
Chattanooga, December 8, 1864.

* * * * *

II. The signal for the assembling of the Civic Guard of Chattanooga organized in accordance with Special and General Orders, No. 1, from these headquarters, is hereby fixed, and ordered to be three guns, fired at intervals of one minute, from the headquarters of the district.

* * * * *

By order of Brigadier-General Meagher:

H. A. FORD,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

CLARKSVILLE, December 8, 1864—11:30 a. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant General:

If there is a probability of the enemy planting a battery on the south side of the river to destroy transports, I would suggest that the drop back to Fort Donelson, where, under the bluff, they would be comparatively safe. Admiral Lee is compelled to leave here for want of water. I have no news of an enemy in this vicinity.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 8, 1864.

Col. A. A. SMITH,
Clarksville:

How long will it take to unload stores from transports at Clarksville and how many car-loads do you suppose there will be in all?

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

KNOXVILLE, December 8, 1864.

General SCHOFIELD:

The beef cattle arrived from Chattanooga day before yesterday. The First and Second [Ohio] Artillery moved up to the Plains yesterday.

supply train and cattle go up to-day. I am making use of all the horse equipments in store house to fit out General Gillen's command, and hope to get them off to-morrow; if so, shall leave myself with it and join Barbridge at Beau's Station, and immediately push forward and endeavor to intercept any force which may be this side of the line. Have no news from Richmond or from this side. River very good and roads passable. Have you any information that would interest me? Is there any chance of Hood's coming this way? Where is General Sherman? Will keep you advised daily, if I can.

GEO. STONEMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Nashville, Tenn., December 8, 1861.

Major-General STONEMAN, Knoxville, Tenn.:

Dispatch received. Have no definite news from Sherman. No danger Hood going that way, for some time at least; but your work should be done soon, so that you may be ready for anything. Your force may be wanted about Chattanooga after a while.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

PRIVATE.]

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 8, 1861.

MR. HENRY WILSON, *United States Senator:*

Since my connection with the rebellion friends high in position have kindly tendered me their offices in securing my preferment or assignment to important command, but, with the single exception of the aid which was rendered me on the occasion of my return to the army, I have uniformly declined them, believing that if health and strength were given me, I could accomplish my advancement with my sword, and that it would come to me when I had earned it. It was with this feeling that I assured you at the moment that the command of the Army of the Potomac would fall to me soon enough, without the effort of my friends to hasten it. It did come, and I exercised it as long as I could with advantage to the cause and with a becoming regard for my honor and self-respect. I trust that an opportunity will be afforded me by the present Congress to lay before the public the facts connected with this part of my military history, which has hitherto been denied me, after having made the most strenuous efforts to have it placed on record and made known to the world. It is sufficient to say that now it is not under-

thing. Every letter that I receive, every step that I take among the friends and relatives of the troops, want to abundant evidence of the truthfulness of what I state. Still I have no better command. Why is it? I am informed that I enjoy the unshaken confidence of His Excellency the President and of the Secretary of War, and yet I am laid on the shelf; nay, more, I am not only deprived of the command I have earned with my saber, but whenever a vacancy is to be filled in the list of major-generals in the regular army my name is placed in nomination for promotion over my head, when I have encountered more fire and gained more successes in the estimation of the soldiers of the army than any ten of them; and this will be the verdict of the people when placed in possession of all the facts.

Of my campaigns in the West last fall and the present year but little is known, except by those actually present, for the reason that a studied effort has been made by General Grant and Sherman to keep me in the background. I understand that I incurred the displeasure of the lieutenant-general in my assault of Lookout Mountain, and although it was made with direct conformity to his orders, that I cannot have his forgiveness. It was too unsuccessful; I carried away the honors, when he intended that I should be a spectator to Sherman's operations. In the campaign of this summer under Sherman it was the fortune of the Twentieth Corps, which I commanded, to do the heavy work, and it was accomplished in a manner that extorted the applause of all the armies. They became so partial to me that Sherman offered me a professional and personal indignity, which he knew would drive me from the army, and it was permitted to be done by the President of the United States. When McPherson fell, Sherman took Howard, my junior, an officer who cannot make himself felt on the field of battle, and assigned him to the command of that army, when the rumor that I was to have it was received with expressions of great joy from one end of the line to the other. The dissatisfaction of the troops at this continues to this day.

On going to the West with the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps, I had to encounter the prejudice, which expressed itself at all times and on all occasions, of a fancied superiority of Western troops over those from the East, but that disappeared at the first encounter I had with the enemy and in the following campaign, this summer, my corps became in the minds of all the grandest corps of the war. It fought its way to the very hearts of our companions, notwithstanding an insult was offered to have countenanced which for one moment would have made me lose caste with all soldiers, and, what is more, I would have lost caste with myself. For the private part of the indignity, it would have given me the greatest satisfaction to have broken my saber over the head of Sherman; for the professional part, I could but make application to be removed from that army. Every one understood the cause, and every one appreciated and approved of my withdrawal. During that entire campaign, Schofield, an officer unknown to the war, was in command of the Army of the Ohio, and McPherson, another of my juniors, exercised the command of the Army of the Tennessee. Such was my feeling of degradation, or humiliation, that I saw no day on that campaign that I would not have withdrawn from the service in disgust, could I have done so with justice to myself and the cause in which I was engaged. I could die, but I could not commit suicide. On coming East a new command was just about to be sent up the Potomac River, and it was given to Sheridan, a new man; but it was thought better to experiment with him, than give it to one who had won and sustained

the character of "Fighting Joe" in all the armies. Sheridan was first made a brigadier-general for comparatively nothing, and now for his flight at Cedar Run they are attempting to push him forward in an unprecedented manner, over my head, to a major-generalcy. Understand me, I do not wish to underestimate his conduct in his last battle; but who will say, as a feat of arms, that it was to be compared with Lookout Mountain, or Peach Tree Creek, the 20th of July last? In this last fight my adversary outnumbered me two to one; in his the disparity of forces was the same, but in his favor.

Every word I write you is true. Then let me ask again, why is all this? To avoid the trouble and responsibilities of the war, does the President surrender everything to General Grant? Is he willing, in his desire to have an easy time, that injustice of the most monstrous character should be visited upon subordinates? My blood curdles to think of it. You probably have taken the measure of General Grant before this; if you have not, you will soon have an opportunity.

As for Sherman, no man occupying his position has been more unfortunate. His attack on Vicksburg in 1861 [1862] was a failure; his attack on Mission Ridge was a terrible repulse; his campaign to Meridian early this year was worse than a failure; and in his campaign of Atlanta (considering his men, means, and field of operations, the most splendid opportunity for the display of generalship the rebellion has presented) he succeeded in pushing back the enemy, interior to him as one to three, and even that advantage he abandoned in cutting loose from Atlanta to run away from his adversary, instead of toward him. Now Hood is investing Nashville, occupying a position he held two years ago, after two years of campaigning to drive him into the interior. You and I know that the rebellion is dead when its military power is destroyed, and not until then; it is to be killed by blows, not marches; and, after an experience of four years, it does seem as if we ought to know this fact. Had Sherman marched against Hood, there was no earthly reason why he should escape; I hope that he will not now. Sherman is crazy; he has no more judgment than a child; and yet it is with such men that the high places of the army are being filled. Grant is determined to have no officer of ability near him in rank. Unless the Senate should interpose, our armies will be more and more feebly commanded as the war progresses. The absolute want of a just standard by which to award the rewards and punishments of service has tended more than any other one fact to prevent the army from arriving at that excellence in discipline and that success in battle we had the right and reason to expect. With a proper appreciation of merit on the part of the civil and military authorities in rebellion, they have made an army inferior in number and inferior in character equal to if not superior to our own.

Excuse my long letter, though I have not written you half as much as I desire to. I have only time to touch some of the most prominent points.

With regard to myself, I can only state, that if my services have not been such as to merit reward, they should shield me from punishment. It has been my wish to continue in service until the rebellion is dead and buried, but unless I can be protected from indignity, the sooner I quit the better.

Will write you again shortly.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

PRIVATE.]

HEADQUARTERS, NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 8, 1864.HON. HENR. F. WADE,
United States Senator.

Now that the election is over, I trust that no objection will be made to my appearing before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, to render an account of my stewardship while in command of the Army of the Potomac. I feel, and know, that great injustice has been done me by those who have professed to be my friends in not permitting me to make my disclosure at an earlier period, as it is the only way in which I can have it spread before the public, so long as General Halleck exercises the influence he now does over the highest national authorities. The issues involved in my case mainly rest between myself and that officer, so far as I know, and it is for his interest to delay their publicity to the last practicable moment. This is my impression; of its accuracy, you will be able to determine as soon as an opportunity presents itself for you to become acquainted with the facts. I know of no public duties connected with my present command that can be urged as an objection to my absence for a few days early in the coming month, should the Committee deem it expedient to summon me before them. Allow me to request that you will inform me at your earliest convenience if I may look for this privilege to be extended to me. A refusal will be deeply injurious to me. I have already suffered severely, as you well know, from the ignorance of the public in regard to the events to which I refer, although my subsequent services have done much to obliterate the recollection and quiet the censures of my enemies. It is only with the authorities that I am prejudiced now. Every step that I take among the people satisfies me that I am right with them, and I know that we have no army in the field that would not welcome my return to it with enthusiasm. Yet I cannot have an active command given me, and an effort is being made to degrade me by promoting juniors over my head.

Generals Sherman and Sheridan, I am informed, have been nominated to the Senate for commissions of major general in the regular army, while I am their senior as a brigadier. This is an outrage to me, and would be so pronounced by nine tenths of the army were they allowed a free expression of their opinion. No matter what the newspapers may say to the contrary, no officer high in command has been more unfortunate than Sherman, and this moment he is engaged in a raid which will tend to prolong the war, when he had it in his power to have utterly destroyed Hood's army. At the time he cut loose from Atlanta, Hood was on the north side of the Tennessee River, but instead of marching for him, he chose to march from him. Blows, not marches, are to kill the rebellion. It is our duty to look after the rebel armies, and not territory, for that will come when the military power of the rebels is broken. Sherman's present raid will be likely to resemble in its results that of last winter to Meridian, in which he suffered much more than his adversary. We will, however, hope for the best. Whatever was gained by the campaign of Atlanta, all will admit was abandoned when he quit Atlanta, undoing at the close of the year what he had gained at the beginning. As regards the campaign of Atlanta, considering the relative strength of the forces and the means of each, taken in connection with the field of operations, the rebellion has presented no such opportunity for the display of generalship, and yet how badly improved. We merely crowded back an enemy inferior to us as one to three, instead of anni-

bilating him, as we had many opportunities to do. No campaign of ours is open to more severe criticism, and if it has hitherto escaped, it has been for the reason that the political condition of the country did not justify it; it was barren of fruit, but prolific in deeds of the noblest heroism on the part of the troops. Sherman is active and intelligent, but so devoid of judgment that it is actually unsafe to trust an army to his command. I know of what I am writing. If he is not flighty, I never saw a flighty man.

Sheridan has just been made a brigadier, and now I hear he is named for a major-general for Cedar Run. I have no disposition to disparage his conduct on this field, but how many times would I have been advanced had my conduct been regarded with equal favor? I have no objection to his being rewarded, but not at my expense, when I have had ten fields to his one, and acknowledged by my companions to have been a fighting general on all of them. What does it mean, then, Senator, that these indignities are crowded upon me? I am informed that Grant will never forgive me for taking Lookout Mountain, although assaulted in obedience to his orders; but the trouble was, I was too successful. But can it be possible that the President of the United States will adopt the opinions of the lieutenant-general in regard to men and war as his standard, by which he shall award the rewards and punishments of service? Is it possible that he should not be fully understood after the operations of this summer? If not, be assured, Senator, after four years of war all the high places of this army will be filled with men of mediocrity, unless the Senate should interpose to prevent it. Every day one is made to blush at the ignorance which prevails in regard to the war, and this will continue to be the case until we can have a national organ, controlled by the highest intelligence of the land, to enunciate the truth in regard to passing events. Our people read newspapers to avoid thinking, and hence it is not surprising that they should often appear to great disadvantage. But I am wandering from my subject.

My object in writing was to be summoned before your Committee; this I especially desire. I need not tell you that I wish to be in a state of readiness to quit the service, in case I should be compelled to from the outrages done me.

Hoping that I may soon hear from you, and wishing you well, I remain
Your friend and servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 8, 1861—11.33 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Louisville, Ky.:

The captain of the steamer *Houston*, No. 1, Madison packet, [reports that he] was fired into at Carrollton, at the mouth of Kentucky River, yesterday, and the citizens reported that the force was Jesse's rebel cavalry, and numbered about 150. I request that a force be sent to capture this band of guerrillas, if possible. I have no men to send; all of my troops are now guarding prisoners. Please answer.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJUT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. ---, } Washington, D. C., December 9, 1864.

In accordance with the following dispatch from Lieutenant-General Grant, viz:—

Please telegraph order relieving him (General Thomas) at once and placing Schofield in command. Thomas should be directed to turn over all dispatches received since the battle of Franklin to Schofield.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

The President orders:

I. That Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield assumes command of all troops in the Departments of the Cumberland, the Ohio, and the Tennessee.

II. That Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas report to General Schofield for duty and turn over to him all orders and dispatches received by him, as specified above.

By order of the Secretary of War:

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
December 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

General Grant expresses much dissatisfaction at your delay in attacking the enemy. If you wait till General Wilson mounts all his cavalry, you will wait till doomsday, for the waste equals the supply. Moreover, you will soon be in same condition that Rosecrans was last year—with so many animals that you cannot feed them. Reports already come in of a scarcity of forage.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 9, 1864—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington D. C.:

Your dispatch of 10.30 a. m. this date is received. I regret that General Grant should feel dissatisfaction at my delay in attacking the enemy. I feel conscious that I have done everything in my power to prepare, and that the troops could not have been gotten ready before this, and if he should order me to be relieved I will submit without a murmur. A terrible storm of freezing rain has come on since daylight, which will render an attack impossible until it breaks.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

There is no perceptible change in the appearance of the enemy's line to-day. Have heard from Cumberland River, between Harpeth and Clarksville, and there are no indications of any preparations on the part of the enemy to cross. The storm still continues.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, *December 9, 1861—1 p. m.*Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

Your dispatch of 8.30 p. m. of the 8th is just received. I had nearly completed my preparations to attack the enemy to-morrow morning, but a terrible storm of freezing rain has come on to-day, which will make it impossible for our men to fight to any advantage. I am, therefore, compelled to wait for the storm to break and make the attack immediately after. Admiral Lee is patrolling the river above and below the city, and I believe will be able to prevent the enemy from crossing. There is no doubt but that Hood's forces are considerably scattered along the river with the view of attempting a crossing, but it has been impossible for me to organize and equip the troops for an attack at an earlier time. Major-General Halleck informs me that you are very much dissatisfied with my delay in attacking. I can only say I have done all in my power to prepare, and if you should deem it necessary to relieve me I shall submit without a murmur.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 9, 1861—7.30 p. m.*Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

Your dispatch of 1 p. m. received. I have as much confidence in your conducting a battle rightly as I have in any other officer; but it has seemed to me that you have been slow, and I have had no explanation of affairs to convince me otherwise. Receiving your dispatch of 2 p. m. from General Halleck, before I did the one to me, I telegraphed to suspend the order relieving you until we should hear further. I hope most sincerely that there will be no necessity of repeating the orders, and that the facts will show that you have been right all the time.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 9, 1861—11.30 p. m.*
(Received 10th.)Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

Your dispatch 7.30 p. m. is just received. I can only say in further explanation why I have not attacked Hood that I could not concentrate my troops and get their transportation in order in shorter time than it has been done, and am satisfied I have made every effort that was possible to complete the task.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 9, 1861—11 a. m.*
(Received 1.15 p. m.)Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Dispatch of 8 p. m. last evening from Nashville shows the enemy scattered for more than seventy miles down the river, and no attack

CLARKSVILLE, December 9, 1861—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Telegram received. Unfortunately, all the gun-boats of this division are above the Shoals; none here. I expect two at Smithland to-morrow or next day; prepared to convoy.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear Admiral.

SAINT LOUIS, December 9, 1861—5.50 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Dispatch of the 8th received and acted upon.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General.

SAINT LOUIS, December 9, 1861—5.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

Colonel Benteen's brigade of cavalry left here this morning on boat for Cairo. Boats do not like to go up the Cumberland. Please send orders to Cairo how they shall proceed from that point.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, December 9, 1861—8.30 p. m.

Colonel BENTEEN,
Cairo:

Transports can ascend Cumberland River as far as Clarksville with perfect safety. Your command can disembark at that point and march to this place on the north bank of the river. You should reach here as soon as possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 9, 1861—8.30 p. m.

(Received 11.20 p. m.)

Maj. THOMAS T. ECKERT:

Storm of sleet and snow to-day prevents any movement of our force or of the enemy. Absolutely nothing to report.

J. C. VAN DUZER,
Captain, &c.

V. Col. W. W. Wheeler, commanding Twenty-eighth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, will report in person to Brig. Gen. John F. Miller, U. S. Volunteers, with his regiment, for temporary duty with the garrison at Nashville.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CEST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

What news have you of the position this morning, and have the enemy's lines been changed or any movement on his part been discovered?

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

(Same to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee; Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Wood, commanding Fourth Army Corps; Maj. Gen. James B. Steedman, commanding District of the Etowah.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

Owing to the severity of the storm raging today it is found necessary to postpone the operations designed for to-morrow morning until the breaking up of the storm. I desire, however, that everything be put in condition to carry out the plan contemplated as soon as the weather will permit it to be done, so that we can act instantly when the storm clears away. Acknowledge receipt.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

(Same to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee; Maj. Gen. J. B. Steedman, commanding District of the Etowah; Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Wood, commanding Fourth Army Corps)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Everything along the line is apparently in the same condition yesterday; no change perceptible.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.]

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding:

Dispatched you early this morning, but probably you have not received it, the entire appearance of the enemy in front of the Fourth Army Corps, so far as could be discovered, remains unchanged, and is as yesterday. Major Dawson, inspector of pickets, was on the line just after daylight this morning, and reports no change since yesterday apparent. Colonel Fullerton is now out to examine the distant works of the enemy to our right of Hillsborough pike and in front of General Smith's left; so soon as I have his report, will send it to you.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding, &c.:

Colonel Fullerton has just returned from examining the enemy's line in front of General Smith's left, but says the atmosphere is so close it is impossible to see the enemy's line. The officer in command of the battery on the hill near General Smith's left told Colonel Fullerton that early this morning he could see the enemy's line, and did not see that it had been extended any since yesterday. I will keep you advised of any changes.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,
Commanding:

Your dispatch postponing, &c., just received. Everything will be held in readiness for the movement whenever you may order it. I have had Colonel Opdycke out in person much of the morning watching and observing and reconnoitering the ground. Under cover of the storm I thought he might individually get up nearer and see what could not be seen otherwise. After receiving General Kimball's report of this morning in regard to the deserter who came in through the Twenty-third Corps front, I sent out Major Dawson to visit the entire picket-line and order the most careful watch to be kept on the enemy and report immediately any movement. Major Dawson reported he could detect no change in the appearance of the enemy's lines and camps. I am now about going out to the front, and will give you the result of my observations.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

**HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 9, 1861.**

Brigadier-General WHITTELL,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland.

Paragraph III, General Orders, No. 160, War Department, series of 1862, limits the allowance of tentage to company officers to one shelter tent each. For an active campaign in pleasant weather company officers can manage to get along with this allowance and perform the duties required of them, but in inclement and winter weather it is impossible. I would therefore suggest that the quartermaster's department, if the amelioration can be allowed, be directed to issue four wall tents for the use of the company officers of each regiment. In this number of tents the present limited number of company officers could find shelter and have the means of doing their proper work. Some additional means of transportation should also be given to them for bedding. The one wagon now allowed to a regiment hardly suffices to transport the regimental and company desks, the three tents allowed to the field and staff of the regiment, a small supply of necessary arrangements and provisions, and the most limited amount of bedding and the officers' valises. In this corps there are fifty-four regimental organizations, and I cannot allow another wagon to each regiment without so weakening the supply train as to render it impossible to transport subsistence enough for any protracted operations. I would hence ask that the quartermaster's department be directed to turn over to the corps at least fifty additional wagons and teams, and if this cannot be done that each regiment be allowed six mules and pack saddles for the use of the company officers. With this additional means of transportation the comfort, convenience, and efficiency of the company officers would be greatly enhanced, and consequently the general efficiency of the army. I would hence invite the attention of the commanding general to the matter at his earliest convenience.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

**HUGHES, SECOND DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1861.**

General W. D. WHITTELL:

Don't expect me to-day; too risky for smooth sled to travel.

W. L. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General.

**HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1861.**

Major-General THOMAS:

I know of no change yet; have sent out to ascertain.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Nashville, December 9, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland;

GENERAL: A rebel deserter came into our lines this a. m. and states that—

The report is Hood is trying to flank the Yankees. One division of Cheatham's corps went to Murfreesborough several days since. Bate's division and he sent for reinforcements, and another division went him two days since. Rebels do not intend to attack Nashville, but expect to take Murfreesborough and winter there.

No perceptible change on my front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Nashville, Tenn., December 9, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

I have received your dispatch postponing to-morrow's movement. I will have everything to move at a moment's warning.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 9, 1864.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to forward for the information of the commanding general the following statement of a deserter from the rebel lines who came in last evening:

Charles O'Brien, Thirteenth Louisiana Infantry, an Irishman, thirteen years in this country, lived in New Orleans before the war; his family still there, and he desires to join them; belonged to Gibson's brigade, Clayton's division, Lee's corps; was on the skirmish line yesterday, which was strengthened and supported by heavy supports, and drove in our line of pickets. At evening all were withdrawn except two men in each rifle-pit; this, taken with camp rumors, made him think the army intended moving last night, and he therefore came into our lines. He says further that it was generally understood in camp that Bate's division was sent some three days ago to take Murfreesborough, but Bate sent back that he was not strong enough, and another division was sent to him; that it was rumored in camp that the whole army would soon move to Murfreesborough. He reports the rebel loss in killed at Franklin 1,700; says there is no doubt Cleburne was killed; says the division he belongs to has from 6,000 to 7,000 men, and that the army is believed to have from 35,000 to 40,000 infantry and artillery since the battle of Franklin. The other divisions of Lee's corps are Stevenson's and Johnson's.

No change in my immediate front is perceptible this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, December 9, 1861.

Brigadier-General COX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The signal officer reports our pickets driven back from forty rods on the right to half a mile on the left. Do not permit this; strengthen your line and drive the enemy back. I will be on the line soon.

Respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Knoxville, December 9, 1861.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Army of the Ohio:

GENERAL: In reply to your note of this date, I have the honor to report that on yesterday I myself called on General Kindball at his headquarters in regard to the picket-line, and went with his assistant inspector-general to the line on the Franklin pike, and there agreed with him as to the proper place for it, my own line being then upon it. Subsequently my inspector, Major How, met General Kindball himself at the same place, and General K. expressed himself satisfied with the connection. I therefore do not understand the report to which you refer. My line was over a mile from my works, and I did not regard it necessary or best to keep it out so far, as it was at all times liable to capture, unless a far larger part of the whole command was put upon picket than is usual. I will, of course, place it at any position you may indicate, but have no report of its being driven back to day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
December 9, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS:

No material change in front of the left. On center of the line a battery, regiment of infantry, and some cavalry discovered moving toward the right, near the river.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
December 9, 1861—2.40 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Received telegram in relation to move.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DETACH. ARMY OF THE TENN.,
No. 152. } Nashville, Tenn., December 9, 1864.
* * * * *

VI. The Tenth Kansas Volunteer Infantry is hereby assigned to the second Brigade of the Second Division, Detachment Army of the Tennessee, and will forthwith report to Col. J. I. Gilbert, commanding brigade, for orders.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith:

J. HOUGH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
No. 165. } DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEES,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 9, 1864.
* * * * *

II. In obedience to Special Orders, No. 152, extract 7, headquarters Detachment Army of the Tennessee, dated Nashville, Tenn., December 9, 1864, the Eighth Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers will be dropped on the returns and rosters of the First Division. All men in this command belonging to that regiment will immediately be sent to it at Memphis, Tenn.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. McArthur:

W. H. F. RANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,
Commanding.

Your dispatch received. No news whatever this morning. The enemy's lines and position remain unchanged. He is perfectly quiet in my front.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 9, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Your dispatch received. I will carry out your instructions.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

GENERAL STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 9, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Everything quiet in my front; no change of position in camp of enemy to-day. I am constructing the dam of Brown's Creek, on the Lebanon pike; can by a succession of dams overflow my entire front.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

I have the honor, by the direction of the major general commanding, to say that, owing to the severity of the storm raging to-day, it is found necessary to postpone the operations designed for to-morrow morning until the breaking up of the storm. He desires, however, that everything be put in condition to carry out the plan contemplated, as soon as the weather will permit it to be done, so that all can act instantly when the storm clears away. Please acknowledge receipt.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQ. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 9, 1864.

Captain Carr,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Cumberland:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your commendation notifying me of the intention on the part of the major general commanding to postpone the operations designed for to-morrow, and shall govern myself accordingly, in the meantime urging with all possible dispatch the preparation of my command for active service.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. WILSON,
Brig. Major-General.

HQ. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CROXTON:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires to be advised of the arrival of your pressing detachments, with the number and character of the horses they bring.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Brig. Gen. Edward Hatch, Brig. Gen. R. W. Johnson, Brigadier-General Knipe.)

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 9, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. J. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: In reply to your note of to-day I have the honor to say that the pressing details from my regiments have not all of them as yet reported. So far as heard from they have met with but indifferent success. The regiments here have not received twenty horses so far, all told.

The Seventh Ohio, which was stationed at Hyde's Ferry, eight miles below, scouted all the country in their rear, but I am informed by an officer (the colonel commanding has not yet reported) they procured only about one dozen horses. The Fifth Iowa not yet heard from.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS,) HIGHER SIXTH DIVISION, CAV. CORPS,
No. 4.) MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 9, 1864.

I. With the approval of the brevet major general commanding the corps, the following is announced as the organization of this division: First Brigade, Col. Thomas J. Harrison commanding—Eighth Michigan Cavalry, Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry, Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry, Seventh Ohio Cavalry; Second Brigade, Col. James Biddle commanding—Fifth Indiana Cavalry; Sixth Indiana Cavalry, Fifth Iowa Cavalry, Third Tennessee Cavalry; Third Brigade (will be commanded by the senior officer present)—Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Fifth Tennessee Cavalry.

II. The several regimental commanders will report in accordance with this assignment.

By command of Brigadier General Johnson:

E. T. WELLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH OHIO CAVALRY,
December 9, 1864—1 p. m.

EDGEFIELD, TENN., December 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. F. KNIFE,

Commanding Seventh Division, Cavalry Corps.

GENERAL: I have been directed by Major-General Wilson to make a summary of the information obtained during a recent scout to Lebanon. We found only straggling parties of the enemy, ones and twos, visiting landladies. Bille's cavalry had been at Lebanon, but had gone, many thought, toward Carthage, but the weight of evidence was in favor of "to the south of Nashville and to Forrest." The opinion of the people was that Forrest either had gone or intended going to a point near Clarksville about eight miles above, and there crossing for a strike at our communications. This notion was very general, and Bowling Green was the point indicated. Beechmidge was expected, and every man black and white, thought him on the way, *via* Sparta. I have, however, seen East Tennesseeans from beyond Livingston, and he was not anywhere there. I could hear of pontoons, but found none. I could not obtain certain information as to whether we still hold Murfreesborough, or not, but the people seemed to think (especially negroes) that we do still hold it. Two men informed me that the Thirtieth Indiana were in La Vergne, and armed with muskets only (had ones), and that the enemy had charged in with cavalry and taken the place and the force prisoners. They had this from a third party, who said he saw it. A man named Dilble (Dibrell) was expected at Lebanon. He had recently been made a brigadier-general, but I inclined to the opinion that he was expected to conscript his command, rather than bring it. Chentham's division, or part of it, was said to be on Stone's River, and that was the only certainty of a force that I could find. All the horses in the country seemed to have been carried off. Our scout, who extended from Gallatin, crossing out to Lebanon and around it, back to the river at Cairo crossing, a travel of forty miles, with numerous brave detachments, obtained only eight horses. The country was full of rumors, of which what I have written are the only tangible ones. A means of crossing as high up as Hartsville and all at Carthage have been destroyed by my force, and the gunboat Post Boy had orders to destroy all found. My force under Major Stephens, Fourth Tennessee Cavalry, found everything quiet at Carthage and could hear of no enemy in that region. The country on both sides of the river had been stripped of horses completely, even to the stallions, but there is plen of forage—plenty.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,

Brevet Brigadier-General.

(Forwarded to Major-General Thomas by Brevet Major-General Wilson.)

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 9, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Colonel GILFILLAN, OF

COMDG. OFFICER, ELEVENTH MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERS,

Gallatin:

You are hereby directed to have the Second Tennessee Cavalry (Colonel Murphy commanding, which has been ordered to Gallatin

* Mounted Infantry.

duty) patrol the river from Gallatin up to Carthage and beyond, and from Gallatin to this place, keeping a sharp lookout for any attempted crossing of the enemy, and promptly making a report through you to myself if such a movement is discovered. You will be held responsible that this order is faithfully and fully carried out. Acknowledge receipt.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

GALLATIN, TENN., December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Your order by telegraph directing me to have the Tennessee River patrolled by Second Tennessee Cavalry,* Colonel Murphy, is received.

JAMES GILFILLAN,

Colonel Eleventh Minnesota Infantry, Commanding Post.

CLARKSVILLE, December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

There are 2,485 tons of Government stores, and large of hay, and thirty-three ambulances, here. One car would carry between six and seven tons on this railroad. Quartermaster cannot state how long it will take to unload. In addition to quartermaster's force, I have detailed as many men as have room to work on levee.

A. A. SMITH,

Colonel, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 9, 1864.

Col. A. A. SMITH,

Clarksville:

Your dispatch of this a. m. is received. Unload the transports as rapidly as possible and store away, for protection against the weather, all the stores you can, until they can be brought away by rail, which will be as rapidly as possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

BRIDGEPORT, December 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. F. MEACHER:

A scout just arrived reports detachments from the Seventh Alabama and Third Confederate Cavalry leaving Lebanon, De Kalb County, Ala., on the 7th instant for the purpose of attacking the railroad at Whiteside's, and that they camped in Will's Valley on the night of the 7th instant, a distance of about twenty miles from Whiteside's.

M. C. TAYLOR,

Commanding.

* Mounted Infantry.

PADUCAH, December 9, 1861.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

GENERAL: I have just received reliable information that Lyon and Cheatham have crossed the Tennessee River at Danville bridge yesterday; their forces number from 2,000 to 2,500, with six pieces of artillery.

Respectfully,

N. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

LEXINGTON, December 9, 1861—8 p.m.

Brevet Major-General BURBRIDGE,
Road's Station.

General Meredith telegraphs that he has reliable information Lyon's command, 2,000 men and six pieces of artillery, are constructing boats to cross the Tennessee, twenty miles above Fort Helmum, and strike for the Green River bridge. He has sent a gun boat to reconnoiter. I have notified General Ewing. Do not put much faith in Lyon's ability to cross the Tennessee and Cumberland. Have heard nothing from Nashville to-day.

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. FIRST DIVISION, MILITARY DIST. OF KENTUCKY,
Lexington, Ky., December 9, 1861.

Lieutenant-Colonel FRANKSON,
Thirty-ninth Kentucky Infantry Volunteers.

You will proceed to the front and report to General Burbridge with all the men you can gather up belonging to any regiment with General Burbridge able for duty. You have full power to take all men of those regiments from Lexington and Camp Nelson (except telegraph guards) and will use your best exertions to reach the general with all the men possible.

By command of Brigadier-General McLean:

J. N. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. FIRST DIVISION, MILITARY DIST. OF KENTUCKY,
Lexington, Ky., December 9, 1861.

Adj't. Gen. D. W. LINDBERGH,
Frankfort, Ky.:

I am directed by Brigadier-General McLean to inform you that all of the force of 100 men at Georgetown have been ordered to report to you at Frankfort. You can impress horses from the country for the temporary purpose of mounting a company or so, in order to protect the railroad and country from guerrillas, the horses to be returned to the owners as soon as the object is accomplished. Proper receipts should be given by an officer, and the horses promptly returned and the receipt taken up. If you think proper you can mount two companies for

venth Kentucky, at Frankfort, under Captain Cockrill. Inclosed I give the honor to transmit a dispatch* (copy) from Supt. S. Gill for your information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. BUTLER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LOUISA, KY., December 9, 1864.

apt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Received the order. Scouts sent out. No force this side the mountain except Prentiss. Sent force after him. Scout gone to Pound Gap and head of Kentucky River.

GEORGE W. GALLUP,
Colonel, Commanding.

LEXINGTON, KY., December 9, 1864.

ol. GEORGE W. GALLUP,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Louisa, Ky.:

Scouts coming into Mount Sterling to day from six miles of Jackson report 300 rebels there, 100 more at Compton, and 150 at Beaver; also that rebels are concentrating at Salyersville. Has not the scout mistaken your force for rebels? Answer immediately.

By order of Brigadier-General McLean:

J. S. BUTLER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MOUNT STERLING, December 9, 1864.

apt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The scout sent to the mountains has returned, reporting they went within six miles of Jackson. Ben. Connel is there with 300 men; another force at Compton of about 150; a third at Beaver of 150. The scout has traveled from beyond Hazel Green since yesterday, marching all night. The lieutenant also reports a force at Salyersville, and that they are concentrating there.

JOHN J. SEWELL,
Lieutenant and Post Adjutant.

Send out your scouts again and be certain there are no rebels in your front. Colonel Gallup scouts as far as possible toward gap.

By order of Brigadier-General McLean:

J. S. BUTLER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

I think it probably will be better to bring Winslow's cavalry to Thomas until Hood is driven out. So much seems to be awaiting the raising of a cavalry force that everything should be done to supply this want.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 10, 1864—1.10 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

It is reported that most of the cavalry horses sent to mount Garrard's division were used for other purposes, and that 2,400 cavalry horses have been issued at Lexington during the last month to newly organized Kentucky infantry regiments. Nearly one third of the cavalry of the entire army is now dismounted, and the mounting of infantry regiments, except in cases of great emergency, is contrary to regulations and repeated orders. It should immediately cease, and the officers who have done it without proper authority brought to account.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 10, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of 2 [1.40] p. m. this date is received. I have inquired of General Wilson about the diversion of the horses sent to Louisville to mount Garrard's division to other purposes. He thinks the report a mistake. No horses have been used for mounting infantry that I know of, except those used by General Burbridge in October, before he came under my authority. I will make inquiry of Major Chambliss, and give the necessary orders to govern the case in future. There is no apparent change in the enemy's position to-day. The sleet and inclement weather still continue, rendering offensive operations extremely hazardous, if not impossible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

[DECEMBER 10, 1864.—For abstract from return of the U. S. forces under command of Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas, see Part I, p. 54.]

CHATTANOOGA, December 10, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS:

Shall I send the pontoon battalion to Nashville by way of Cumberland and Gap? They can be there in two weeks.

W. E. MERRILL,
Chief Engineer.

NASHVILLE, December 10, 1861—6 p. m.

Maj. W. E. MERRILL,
Chief Engineer, Dept. of the Cumberland, Chattanooga:

Do not send the pontoon battalion to Nashville.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS,
No. 21.

HIGGS, RESERVE ARTILLERY,
ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 10, 1861.

V. In accordance with instructions from Major-General Thomas, commanding Department of the Cumberland, Battery I, First Illinois Artillery, is hereby transferred from the Reserve Artillery, Army of the Tennessee, to the Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi. Lieutenant McCartney, commanding Battery I, First Illinois Artillery, [will,] without unnecessary delay, report for duty with his battery to Bvt. Maj. Gen. James H. Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

VI. In accordance with instructions from Major-General Thomas, commanding Department of the Cumberland, Cogswell's Independent Battery is relieved from duty with the Reserve Artillery, Army of the Tennessee. The commanding officer of Cogswell's Independent Battery will report immediately for duty to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee.

By order of Maj. Fred. Welker:

ED. B. WRIGHT,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 10, 1861.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

What have you to report this morning concerning the appearance of the enemy's line? Has there been any change, or has anything of interest transpired since last report?

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

(Same to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee; Maj. Gen. James B. Steedman, commanding District of the Etowah; Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Wood, commanding Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 10, 1864.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that he desires to see you at these headquarters to-morrow (Sunday) morning at 10 o'clock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. H. HAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Name in Major-General Smith, commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee; Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Wood, commanding Fourth Army Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Picket officers report no changes in my front this morning. But very little firing on the picket line, probably on account of the inclemency of the weather.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding:

Nothing now to report this morning. Can as yet detect no change in the appearance of the enemy's lines or camps. Will watch closely and report promptly everything of interest. Sent in report for this morning more than two hours ago.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

What is the condition of the ground between the enemy's line and your own? Is it practicable for men to move about on it with facility? I would like your opinion about it.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, December 10, 1864—3 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding:

The ground between the enemy's lines and my own is covered with a heavy sleet, which would make the handling of troops very difficult, if not impracticable. I am confident troops cannot move with facility.

From the condition of the ground an offensive movement would necessarily be feeble, and feebleness of movement would almost certainly result in failure. I will send you, as soon as I can prepare it, a more full report of certain facts in writing, and will probably call at your headquarters this evening.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch to come to department headquarters at 10 a. m. to-morrow received. Will be there.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CIRCULAR, } HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 29. } *Nashville, Tenn., December 10, 1864.*

It has been reported that our pickets have been conversing and holding truces with the enemy's pickets. This must be at once prevented, and officers of the pickets who hereafter allow such practices, or who do not prevent the same, will be arrested and tried by court-martial for correspondence with the enemy. Division commanders will, as soon as practicable, publish this circular to their commands.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Nothing new is reported in my front this morning. I am about starting to the front, and will examine the lines personally and report.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOMBLED, U. S. Volunteers,
Commanding Department of the Ohio, Nashville, Tenn.:

SIR: In response to a communication from Col. W. M. Dunn, assistant judge-advocate-general, transmitted through the Judge-Advocate-General, the Secretary of War decides that the assignment to duty of Major-General Stoneman, under General Orders, No. 94,* headquarters

* See Vol. XXXIX, Part III, p. 592.

Department of the Ohio, of November 1, 1861, does not invest him with authority to exercise those powers which by law are required to be exercised by a department commander alone. The authority expressly conferred upon you by law as such commander cannot be delegated by you to a subordinate. While, therefore, you continue to be the only commander appointed by the President to the Department of the Ohio, you alone can confirm, execute, remit, or mitigate sentences of death, or of cashiering or dismissing an officer pronounced therein by military courts.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Judge-Advocate General.)

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS,
No. 176.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Ash Grove, Tenn., December 10, 1861.

II. General Orders, No. 60, current series, headquarters Department of the Ohio, is hereby amended to read as follows: The allowance of transportation for the headquarters and a division during the winter campaign will be, for baggage, camp equipage, desks, &c., three wagons; for forage, one wagon; for mechanical tools and materials, one wagon; for shoes for the men, one wagon; for subsistence stores for sale to officers, one wagon; for a division ammunition train, a sufficient number of wagons to carry sixty rounds of ammunition for each enlisted man present in the infantry regiments in the division; one wagon for artillery ammunition for each battery in the division; one wagon for intrenching tools; one wagon for intrenching tools will also be allowed each brigade headquarters.

III. Capt. J. B. Campbell, assistant quartermaster, is hereby relieved from duty as quartermaster Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and assigned as assistant chief quartermaster Twenty-third Army Corps.

IV. Lieut. G. A. Lyon, Twenty-third Michigan Infantry, and acting assistant quartermaster, is assigned as quartermaster of transportation of the corps, and will have charge, under the direction of the assistant chief quartermaster, of the supply train and the corps ordnance train.

V. Capt. E. H. Whitman, assistant quartermaster, is assigned as quartermaster Fourth Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and chief quartermaster District of East Tennessee.

VI. Capt. D. W. H. Day, assistant quartermaster, is assigned as quartermaster Fifth Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and chief quartermaster District of Kentucky.

VII. Capt. George C. Winslow, assistant quartermaster, is relieved as quartermaster Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and assigned as disbursing quartermaster for the District of Kentucky, and will report for duty to Lieut. Col. J. P. Boyd, chief quartermaster Department of the Ohio, Louisville, Ky.

IX. Capt. Tyler P. Rood, assistant quartermaster, is assigned as quartermaster Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAJOR-GENERAL STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Your message received. The enemy's lines and position appear to be unchanged. He is perfectly quiet. I am confident his right has not been changed since I saw you.

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HQRS. DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH,
No. 61. } Chattanooga, December 10, 1864.

* * * * *
H. Col. A. O. Millington, commanding Eighteenth U. S. Colored Infantry, will move his regiment, without delay, to Bridgeport, Ala., by special train, and report his arrival at that point to Col. M. C. Taylor, commanding post.

By order of Brigadier-General Mcghee:

H. A. FORD,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[DECEMBER 10, 1864.—For abstract from return of the District of Tennessee, commanded by Maj. Gen. Lovell H. Rousseau, U. S. Army, see Part I, p. 58.]

[DECEMBER 10, 1864.—For abstract from return of the District of the Etowah, commanded by Maj. Gen. James B. Steedman, U. S. Army, see Part I, p. 59.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HQRS. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
No. 33. } Nashville, Tenn., December 10, 1864.

* * * * *
V. Brig. Gen. J. H. Hammond, U. S. Volunteers, having reported for duty at these headquarters, is assigned to the command of the First Brigade, Seventh Cavalry Division, Military Division of the Mississippi, Brig. Gen. J. E. Kuiper commanding. This order to date from November 25, 1864.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Nashville, Tenn., December 10, 1864

Division commanders will take instant measures to mount regim complete by dismounting partially dismounted regiments. Those mounted will be selected from the best armed and disciplined regim in the command. These changes will be made to-day and to-morrow.

commanders will report their action to-night, with the designation and strength of the regiments in which changes have been made. Disposition will hereafter be made of the designated regiments.

By command of David Major General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Paducah, Tenn., December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. D. WALKER,

Commanding Third Brigade, First Division:

GENERAL: The latest major general communicating directs that you move at once with your entire command, by rapid marches, to Rowle Green, Ky., where you will report to General McCook. Should you, however, meet Colonel La Grange en route, before reaching that point you will operate in conjunction with him, to prevent the Confederate General Lyon from making the railroad in that vicinity. General McCook leaves by special train to-night. If the battery belonging your division is near you you will take it with you.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Eli Lyon:

Brigadier General Meredith reports to General Thomas, from Paducah, that Lyon had crossed the Tennessee on the 8th with 2,500 men and would probably try to cross the Cumberland and strike Greer River bridge. General Thomas wishes you make arrangements to counteract any movement which may be developed in that direction. I will keep you advised as nearly as may be of what transpires looking to that.

J. H. WILSON,
Deputy Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 10, 1864—3 p. m.

Colonel Winslow,
Chicago:

All troops from Missouri must go to General Thomas till further orders.

H. W. HALLACK,
Major General and Chief of Staff.

HIGGS, SECOND BRIG., FOURTH DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Chico, Ill., December 10, 1864.

Lieutenant Colonel BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps, Nashville, Tenn.:

COLONEL: I came here on business connected with my command. The detachments of the Third and Fourth Iowa and Tenth Missouri Reg-

ments Cavalry are en route from Saint Louis to Clarksville, Tenn. Portions of above regiments will reach here to-night and to-morrow. I shall go to Memphis to-night, to make every effort to have the detachments there ordered and forwarded to Nashville. I had got orders for this from Major-General Washburn, but Major-General Dana has thus far delayed movements, thinking it not unlikely that the portions in Missouri might join him at Memphis. Major-General Halleck has, however, definitely settled that matter. I have left Colonel Bon-
 teen full instructions to push for Nashville from Clarksville.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. F. WINSLOW,

Colonel Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
 MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 Edgefield, Tenn., December 10, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Lieutenant Colonel Baird, commanding Fifth Iowa Cavalry, has just reported. His command will reach here in about one hour. He reports as follows: Left camp on the evening of the 3d instant; reached Hopkinsville on the night of Wednesday last, the 7th instant, having made a detour to the right to Russellville on his march thither, in order to pick up sixty horses at that place, of which he had information. The Eighth Iowa Cavalry, however, had preceded him and picked up all these horses. At Elkton, on his march up, he obtained fifteen horses (about). From Hopkinsville he detached parties over all the surrounding country. He obtained in all, he states, about 300 horses, very poorly shod; they will nearly all need reshoeing. A full report, with the record of receipts given, will speedily be forwarded. Of these horses Colonel Baird reports that he will need near 250 in his regiment, and, supposing that this would meet the approval of Major-General Wilson, I have instructed him to retain sufficient to mount all of his men. Lieutenant Colonel Baird thinks that horses enough can still be procured in that country to mount a brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. JOHNSON,

Brigadier General of Volunteers.

GALEJATIN, TENN., December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

The Second Tennessee Cavalry,* with which I am to patrol the river, has not yet reported here.

JAMES GILFILLAN,
Colonel Eleventh Minnesota Infantry, Commanding Post.

* Mounted infantry.

NASHVILLE, December 10, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. M. DODGE,
Saint Louis, Mo. :

Your dispatch of 2 p. m. is received. I have an ample supply of batteries.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 10, 1864.

(Received 6.10 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON :

The general impressment of horses by the military is so oppressive here that we cannot think it meets your approbation. All horses are taken without regard to the occupation of the owner or his loyalty. Loaded country wagons with produce for market are left in the road; milk carts, drays, and butcher's wagons are left in the street, their horses seized. We know not the immediate necessities of the service, but we are certain that great wrong is being done in carrying out the order. If there be such, we pray you to look into it.

J. E. SPEED,
BLAND BALLARD.

NASHVILLE, December 10, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General MEREDITH,
Paducah :

Your dispatch of the 9th instant is received. If you should learn further of the movements of Lyon and Cheatham I shall be obliged if you will inform me at the earliest moment.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

PADUCAH, December 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE :

GENERAL: I have just received reliable information that Lyon and Cheatham crossed the Tennessee River at Danville bridge on the 8th. They will apparently demonstrate between the Cumberland and Green Rivers. I think they will strike the Green River bridge. Their forces number some 2,000 to 2,500 men, with six guns. I have sent a steamboat to reconnoiter.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH,
Paducah :

Your dispatch of this date is received. Am much obliged for your attention, and would like you to give me the first intimation of the enemy's movements.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fort Donelson, Tenn., December 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General MEREDITH,
Commanding at Paducah, Ky.:

SIR: I have the honor to make the following statements in regard to the status of operations in this locality: Brigadier-General Lyon, U. S. Army, on yesterday afternoon, captured transport Thomas B. Telfer at Cumberland City, twenty miles above us, and crossed the Cumberland River at that point with his division, numbering about 4,000 men. The crossing was completed today about noon. I have information which I deem reliable that they intend marching upon Hopkinsville, Ky. An attack is also anticipated at Clarksville, Tenn. I have about 700 available men at this post, and am amply able to hold it against any force they can bring to bear. I have no mounted men however, and am not able to harass them in their march.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. FORBES,
Colonel Forty-second Missouri Infantry, Commanding Post.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, December 10, 1864--2:45 p. m.
COMMANDING OFFICER, Louisville, Ky.:

The following has just been received and sent for your information and action:

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., December 10, 1864.
Capt. C. H. POTTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am informed by an officer in whom I have confidence that Maj. Walker Taylor, U. S. Army, is at Haymesville, Ky., opposite Carrollton, Ind., with 100 armed men recruiting and conscripting for the rebel army.

A. P. HOVEY,
Deputy Major-General.
J. HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brigadier-General McLEAN:

On account of increased trouble on road below here, I have sent an additional force of thirty-five men to Pleasantville, and a sufficient mounted force with instructions to hunt down guerrillas and close the road. Have you any news from Major-General Burbridge?

D. W. LINDSEY,
Inspector-General and Adjutant-General.

CAMP NELSON, December 10, 1864.
Capt. J. S. BUTLER, Assistant Adjutant-General:

Have a light force at Forts Nelson, Jackson, and Taylor; no other. This guard consists of the thirty-five men referred to in my telegram of November 28 to you. Thirtieth Kentucky Cavalry are guarding camp and military prison, in which there are sixty-one prisoners. Some colored troops have just been armed. Will send a full report to-morrow by mail of available force in camp.

S. S. FRY,
Brigadier-General.

LEXINGTON, KY., *December 10, 1861.*

Lieutenant BLAND,

Quartermaster Thirtieth Kentucky, Burkesville, Ky.:

There is a rumor that Forrest has crossed the Cumberland. Keep scouts out as far as possible in the direction of Nashville, and inform us immediately should the enemy come your way. Should a force approach you destroy the pontoons and fall back.

By order of Brigadier-General Melem:

J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP NELSON, *December 10, 1861.*

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

The men left at Burkesville when I came away were convalescents and dismounted men. Lieutenant Bland telegraphs me this evening that you ordered him to keep scouts out toward Nashville. If he hides what men he has there he will lose them all. The pontoon is not worth the risk, and we have nothing to mount to anything outside of it to lose.

J. W. WEATHERFORD,
Colonel Thirtieth Kentucky Cavalry.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 10, 1861.*

COMMANDING OFFICER,

Smithland:

Will you please hand to Colonel Benteen, commanding brigade of cavalry, now on board transports bound for this place, the accompanying dispatch, and at the same time say to him that transports can ascend the Cumberland as far as Clarksville without danger. He will, however, await at Smithland the arrival of gun-boats to convoy him to Clarksville, where he will disembark his command and march to this place on the north bank of the river. Acknowledge receipt.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

(Enclosure.)

NASHVILLE, *December 10, 1861.*

Colonel BENTEEN,

Commanding Cavalry Brigade, Smithland:

Await at Smithland the arrival of gun-boats, which, Admiral Lee informs me, will be there to convoy your transports to Clarksville. As soon as they arrive you will at once proceed to Clarksville, where you will disembark and march on the north bank of the river to this place. Should you learn of the presence of any force of the enemy between the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers when you arrive at Clarksville, move your brigade against it and drive it off, unless you are satisfied he is too strong for you, in which case you will report the fact by telegraph to me at this place.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FORT, CAMP DOUGLAS,
Chicago, Ill., December 10, 1864.

Col. N. P. CHURMAN,
Acting Aide-de-Camp, Washington, D. C.:

Judge Buckner S. Morris was arrested on the night of the 6th November, by my order, for assisting prisoners of war to escape, relieving the enemy with money, holding correspondence with the enemy, and complicity with the plot to attack Camp Douglas. For full particulars, see my report* to Brig. Gen. H. W. Wessells, Commissary, General of Prisoners, of date November 23. Judge Advocate Burnett is now here investigating and arranging for trial.

H. J. SWEET,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 10, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General DANA,
Memphis:

General Grant ordered all available troops in Missouri to re-enforce General Thomas at Nashville. All cavalry horses in the West were also ordered there, to remount General Thomas' cavalry. As soon as the crisis there has passed horses will be again sent down the Mississippi River. In the meantime you must do the best you can with the means at your disposal.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 10, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General DENNIS,
Saint Louis:

General Thomas has more cavalry now than he can mount, and requires all the horses to mount his own men. If you can send him infantry or artillery please do so. If the Cumberland River is closed they should go by Louisville. Whatever you can send can be returned as soon as the crisis is passed.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SAINT LOUIS, December 10, 1864—4 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I send five regiments of infantry, all there are in the department organized subject to be sent outside of State; one regiment of cavalry well mounted, and will send batteries. They go by rail.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General.

* See Part I, p. 1076.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 11, 1861—9.30 p. m.*

Major-General H. W. HALLER,
Washington, D. C. :

The position of the enemy appears the same to-day as yesterday. The weather continues very cold and the hills are covered with ice. As soon as we have a thaw, I will attack Hood. It is reported to me, from Clarksville, that the rebel General Lyon has crossed the Cumberland at Cumberland City, below Clarksville, with between 2,000 and 3,000 men and six pieces of artillery, and it is supposed he is moving on Bowling Green. I have sent two brigades of cavalry to intercept him. I have also received a dispatch from Major-General Rousseau, at Murfreesborough, dated 8th instant. He reports that Bate's division, of Cheatham's corps, threatened Murfreesborough on the 6th and 7th instant, and on the afternoon of the 7th Milroy, with six regiments of infantry and a battery of artillery, succeeded in getting on the enemy's flank and completely routed him, capturing two pieces of artillery and 207 prisoners, of whom 18 are officers. Our loss was 30 killed and 175 wounded. He does not report the enemy's killed and wounded. Just before Milroy attacked, a portion of the enemy's cavalry attacked the town, but were soon driven off by a regiment of infantry and a section of artillery, sent against them from the fort. At the time of making a report everything was quiet, and no appearance of the enemy in any direction.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 11, 1861—1 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn. :

If you delay attack longer the mortifying spectacle will be witnessed of a rebel army moving for the Ohio River, and you will be forced to let, accepting such weather as you find. Let there be no further delay. Hood cannot stand even a drawn battle so far from his supplies of advance stores. If he retreats and you follow, he must lose his material and much of his army. I am in hopes of receiving a dispatch from you to-day announcing that you have moved. Delay no longer for further or re-enforcements.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 11, 1861—10.30 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

Your dispatch of 4 p. m. this day is just received. I will obey the order as promptly as possible, however much I may regret it, as the attack will have to be made under every disadvantage. The whole country is covered with a perfect sheet of ice and sleet, and it is with difficulty the troops are able to move about on level ground. It was my intention to attack Hood as soon as the ice melted, and would have done so yesterday had it not been for the storm.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861—1 p. m.

Admiral S. P. LEE,
Clarksville:

Colonel Smith, of Clarksville, reports the capture by rebel General Lyon of two steamers, and the crossing of the river by his force on the captured boats. I have the honor to request whether you cannot send down the river and recapture the boats and destroy the enemy's force. If you can do so, I shall be much indebted to you, as it is very important service. The boats were captured at Cumberland City.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.FLAGSHIP CINCINNATI,
Clarksville, December 11, 1861—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Your telegram is just brought off by the cipher operator. It is probable, from the personal reports of the steam-boat captain and pilots, that three boats have been captured and destroyed by the enemy, and that General Lyon has crossed the river. I should immediately upon hearing of the enemy's operations have gone down the river to the point of crossing, but that it is below a shoal where there is not water enough for this vessel. Colonel Smith has sent me word that the rebels were coming into the lower part of this town, and since that he believes their movement is a feint. I expect two gun-boats and two transports with ammunition for Fitch up the river to-night or to-morrow, and am further disappointed at not being able to meet and convoy them.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

SAINT LOUIS, December 11, 1861—12.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

The regiments mentioned by me are not a part of Colonel Benteen's troops. All I speak of are in addition to what had been ordered before I took command. General Halleck says not send any cavalry to you, only mounted. The infantry are scattered, but will commence to leave by rail to-morrow. How about cavalry? If this weather holds it will not be safe to send them by boat, and I fear Benteen will be closed in some point.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General.

SAINT LOUIS, December 11, 1861—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

I have had to unload 400 men and 300 horses, the last of Colonel Benteen's command, caught in lee, and send them by rail to Louisville, at which place please give them orders.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 11, 1864—1 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. M. DODGE,
Saint Louis, Mo.:

Your dispatch of 12 m. to-day is received. I am of the opinion that the mts you have already started can get through, at least to Smithland, which point I have directed all boats coming up the Cumberland to alt and report to me for orders. Send the infantry on, but hold all cavalry not actually on the way till the present cold snap is over, to avoid unning risks.

Geo. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. D. WHITTLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following copies of telegrams just received are furnished for the information of the major-general commanding:

CLARKSVILLE, *December 11, 1864.*

Fleet empty boats left last night for down the river. The boat Ben South, some six hours in advance, it is reported, burned by General Lyon's force at Cumberland Ky, some twenty miles below this post.

I. P. WILLIAMS,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

CLARKSVILLE, *December 11, 1864.*

Courier just in from Fort Donelson report capture of tow boat Echo, and destroyed; so steamer Thomas E. Tuff, loaded with grain and troops, coming up, taken and destroyed at Cumberland City.

I. P. WILLIAMS,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. DONALDSON,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 11, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

(Received 10.55 p. m.)

Maj. THOMAS T. REBERT,
Washington:

Frost still holds everybody, except wood-cutters, idle. No movement to report either on our part or that of the enemy for the past three days.

J. C. VAN DEZER,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding:

I spent a good part of the afternoon in examining the enemy's lines, and gained some information which I had not before and which I would

be glad to point out to you in person, as I think it would be well for you to see the whole ground. I believe it would aid you in making your arrangements. If it will suit your convenience to come out to-morrow, and you will name an hour when you will be at my headquarters, I will be here to meet and accompany you to the different positions for observation.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

Your dispatch is received. Will try to be at your headquarters at 11 a. m. or 12 m. to-morrow.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,
Commanding:

Your dispatch of this 10 p. m. received.* Orders will be complied with.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 11, 1864.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE SECOND BRIGADE,
SECOND DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS:

Having been relieved from duty with the department at my own request, I find it very hard to part from a command with which I have been so long associated—a command that has made itself notorious for its gallant and meritorious deeds; but wherever I may be, I shall rejoice to hear of your success, as I will, for you can say what few commands can, you never fail. Let us never forget the gallant men that have fallen with us, and if we ever meet any of their families that need our help, divide the last cent with them.

Hoping to meet you again in times of peace,

I am, your obedient servant,

G. D. WAGNER,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

* See Thomas to Schofield, p. 147.

NASHVILLE, *December 11, 1864.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Have your command put in readiness to-morrow for operations. I wish to see you at my headquarters at 3 p. m. to-morrow. Acknowledge receipt.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

(Same to Major-General Steedman, Major-General Smith, and Brigadier-General Wood.)

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your dispatch of this date received. I shall be ready.
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, { HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 177. { *Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1864.*

XVI. The Fifteenth Indiana Battery, Capt. A. D. Harvey commanding, is hereby transferred from the Third to the Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and will report to Major-General Couch, commanding.

XVII. Battery F, First Michigan Light Artillery, Capt. B. D. Padlock commanding, and the Twenty-second Indiana Battery, Capt. E. N. Nicholson commanding, are hereby transferred from the Second to the First Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Ruger, commanding.

By command of Major-General Schofield:
J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs you to instruct the officers in command of your pickets not to permit any intercourse or anything like a truce between our pickets and those of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
December 11, 1864.
 Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

All quiet in my front; not as many picket lines on my right front; on the left everything remains the same.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

GENERAL STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Can I defer visiting your quarters to 2 p. m.? My dam broke during the night, and I have just got the water stopped, and wish to remain to attend to it. I would also like to feel the enemy, to ascertain whether he has changed. I think he has changed, but cannot ascertain certain without feeling him.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

NASHVILLE, *December 11, 1864.*

Major-General STEEDMAN:

You can defer your visit to these headquarters until 2 o'clock, and feel the enemy as you propose.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you commence the crossing of your command over the river to-morrow morning, as positive orders have been received by him to at once attack the enemy. They will go into position as has already been designated in your consultations with the major-general commanding.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
 } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 No. 34. } *Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1864.*

1. The Fourteenth Ohio Battery, Lieutenant Myers commanding having reported in accordance with Special Orders, No. 21, paragraph 11, headquarters Artillery Reserve, Department of the Tennessee

ember 10, 1861, is hereby assigned to duty with Seventh Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, Brig. Gen. J. E. Knipe commanding.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL. } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
FIELD ORDERS, } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
No. 1.* } *Edgefield, Tenn., December 11, 1861.*

This command will move to-morrow as follows:

1. The Fifth Division, Brigadier-General Hatch commanding, will move promptly at 8.30 a. m., leaving General Johnson's command on a right, will cross the pontoon bridge, and, passing through Nashville, take the position previously indicated by the brevet major general commanding.
2. The First Division, Brigadier-General Croxton commanding, will move promptly at 8.30 a. m. across the railroad bridge, and, passing through Nashville, take position as previously indicated.
3. The Seventh Division, Brigadier-General Knipe commanding, will move in rear of the First Division, and, crossing the railroad bridge, will take a position which will be indicated.
4. The Sixth Division, Brigadier-General Johnson commanding, will commence crossing on the pontoon bridge after the Fifth Division, and, should the railroad bridge be vacant, use both bridges, pass through Nashville, and occupy a position on the right of the First Division, as previously indicated.
5. The ordnance train and ambulances will follow the troops and will be followed by the other wagons of the command.
6. Each man will be provided with three days' rations and one day's baggage, to be carried on the horses.
7. Every man, mounted or dismounted, will cross.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, December 11, 1861.

Brigadier-General McClellan:

You will proceed without delay to Bowling Green, concentrating McKus' and La Grange's brigades, and move at once against the rebel cavalry under General Lyon. Lyon crossed the Cumberland yesterday below Clarksville, and is supposed to be moving toward Hopkinsville, Russellville, and Bowling Green; his force is estimated at 2,000 men. The greatest celerity is necessary. You may proceed direct by a special train, which Captain Carling, chief quartermaster, will have provided.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

*So in original. But recorded in Wilson's book of "Special Field Orders."

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON:

The railroad agent informs me that it will be impossible to send any special trains through, as there are sixteen trains on the way between here and there. Captain Carling, of your staff, can inform you more explicitly as to the nature of the impediment the agent made. I will go on the morning train at 7 o'clock, which is the first opportunity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. M. MCCOOK,
*Brigadier-General.*HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1861—9 p. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comd'g. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that it has just been stated to me by Doctor Spilman, acting division chief surgeon, that Brigadier General Watkins was still holding his brigade and the Eighteenth Indiana Battery in readiness to start. I have therefore issued orders for him to start without further delay.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD M. MCCOOK,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 11, 1861.

Lieut. Col. A. J. ALEXANDER,

Actg. Chief of Staff, Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that my command is at this time all mounted, with the exception of the Fourth Kentucky Mounted Infantry, which regiment needs about 200 horses. I have still one company out, which I believe will bring in nearly a sufficient number to mount all the command.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. CRONTON,
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 11, 1861.

Brig. Gen. B. LONG:

Two brigades of McCook's division have been ordered to Bowling Green. Consequently, your orders to move to that point are revoked. I want you to use all haste, however, to get your command in readiness and move to this point.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 11, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. J. ALEXANDER,
Actg. Chief of Staff, Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:

I have the honor to state, for the information of the brevet major-general commanding Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, that I visited the ground assigned to my division on the right of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith to-day. It is my impression that the rebels have retired their line, from personal observation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 11, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: In compliance with circular of this date, I have the honor to state, for the information of the brevet major-general commanding, that the effective men of my command will undoubtedly be mounted to-morrow. The Sixth Illinois Cavalry is still out pressing horses, and will probably obtain a large number. The regiment is expected in to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, December 11, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT:

I have the honor to report that, in obedience to your orders, I have had the Eighth Michigan and Fourteenth Illinois dismounted, and with their horses fully mounted the Sixteenth Illinois and Seventh Ohio. By this arrangement I will have about forty horses surplus, but our men are returning from hospitals, &c., every day, and I think it advisable to retain them. This arrangement will leave about 750 well mounted men in the First (Harrison's) Brigade. In the Second (Biddle's) Brigade the Fifth Iowa only is mounted, about 500 men. First Brigade, 750 men; Second Brigade, 500 men; total, 1,340 men. Their battery is fitted out with eight horses to each carriage, ten cannoneers, all mounted, and is in good condition for service. I have the following regiments dismounted: Eighth Michigan, at Edgefield; Fourteenth Illinois, at Edgefield; Fifth Indiana, at Louisville; Sixth Indiana, at Edgefield.

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. 6TH DIV., CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Edgefield, Tenn., December 11, 1864.

Col. T. J. HARRISON, *Commanding Brigade:*

COLONEL: In accordance with instructions received from Major-General Wilson, General Johnson directs that you take instant meas-

ures to mount regiments complete by dismounting partially mounted regiments. You will make this change to-day, and report your action as soon as possible after the arrangements are completed, with the designation and the strength of the regiments in which changes have been made. A report is required from General Johnson to-night.

This by direction of Brigadier-General Johnson:

E. T. WEIDAS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. L. H. ROUSSEAU,

Commanding District of Tennessee, Murfreesborough:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your report* of 12 m. 8th instant, at the hands of your special messenger, just arrived. Your report has been read with a great deal of pleasure by the major-general commanding, and especially your very flattering testimonial to the good conduct and bravery of the new regiments embraced in your command. No gratifying, indeed, is your report concerning them, that it is the desire of the major-general commanding that you express to these troops and to all the troops in your command participating in operations about Murfreesborough his highest commendation and hearty thanks for their gallant conduct in so successfully and steadily repelling the attacks of the enemy and in finally driving him off. Having thus merited his confidence, he expresses the hope that they will acquit themselves as nobly in the future as in the past. You have a good supply of provisions in Murfreesborough, and the major-general commanding expects you to hold out against all attacks of the enemy until you are relieved by the forces from this place.

Since the dispatches of the 4th and 5th instant (which doubtless you have received by this time), the situation at Nashville is comparatively unchanged. Operations offensive have necessarily been deferred on account of the prevalence of a severe storm of sleet and rain, making it, by reason of the freezing weather we are having, a very difficult, if not altogether impracticable, matter to move troops. Reports received from deserters would indicate that Forrest, with three divisions of infantry, has been sent to operate against Murfreesborough, which, however, is not conclusive that such is the fact. They hope to effect a capture of the place (in which hope he trusts you will fully be able to disappoint them), when the proposition seems to be for Hood's army to fall back to Murfreesborough and go into winter quarters. The army here is in good condition and excellent spirits, and cavalry and infantry will give a good account of themselves when the moment for action arrives.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHLAND, December 11, 1864.

Capt. JAMES GRAHAM, Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Lieutenant-Colonel Buchanan, of the Seventh Missouri, who has just arrived at this post, states that the steamer Thomas E. Tutt was

captured, between Fort Donelson and Clarksville, on the evening of the 9th. The officers and men were paroled and the steamer was burned. General Lyon crossed the Cumberland with 3,000 men, using the T. E. Tutt to cross with. Boats were also fired into at the same point last night coming down the river.

Respectfully,

HENRY P. REED,
Captain, Commanding Post.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 11, 1861—4 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER, Smithland:

You will direct all boats designing to ascend the Cumberland to halt at Smithland and report to me at this place for further orders. Colonel Benteen will also follow these instructions, as it is not advisable to move up the river at this time. Acknowledge receipt.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 11, 1861—10.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE, *Chief of Staff:*

Rebel General Lyon, with from 2,000 to 3,000 men, with nine pieces of artillery, captured an up boat, at Cumberland City, Friday evening, and was crossing the river yesterday. He captured the Ben South that left here yesterday. The other boats all returned except two, who ran the battery and are at Fort Donelson.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861—6 p. m.

Col. A. A. SMITH, *Clarksville:*

It has been reported by the assistant quartermaster at Clarksville that the boats captured by the rebel General Lyon have all been burned. Will you report at once whether the statement is correct.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 11, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS:

The Thomas E. Tutt and Ben South are certainly burned. Tow-boat Echo has not returned—supposed to have been burned. A courier left Donelson last night at 12 o'clock. Echo had not arrived there. The two that had run the battery had arrived.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 11, 1861.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My scouts have just been driven in by Lyon's men, but I do not think he will come here, but threaten me. I think he will go to Hopkinsville, Bowling Green, or Russellville. I am ready for him.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant General;

The trains that came in to-day have no guard. Am I expected to furnish one? Have had no order. Lyon's advance has retired. He may attack in the morning; I feel confident that I can hold the place if he does.

A. A. SMITH,

Colonel Eighty-third Illinois Volunteers, Commanding.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. HENRY EWING,

Louisville, Ky.:

General Lyon, with his brigade, crossed the Cumberland at mouth of Yellow Creek, day before yesterday, and occupied La Fayette yesterday, eighteen miles south of Hopkinsville.

S. F. JOHNSON,

Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Nashville, December 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FAIRLEIGH, is

COMMANDING OFFICER,

Louisville, Ky.:

Send by rail to Bowling Green, as rapidly as possible, all troops arriving at Louisville destined for this place. The rebel General Lyon has crossed the Cumberland below Clarksville, with the intention, it is said, of destroying the Green River railroad bridge, if he can. The troops are expected to defend the bridge.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

PADUCAH, December 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the result of the reconnaissance of the gun boat *Pecata* up the Tennessee River. They report that General Lyon crossed at Danville bridge at 4 p. m. the 9th instant, 2,000 strong, with two pieces of artillery. I received information from another source that four pieces of artillery were crossed above. Gunboat brought down four barges that have been used crossing the enemies' troops; two of them were barges not destroyed at Johnsonville, which had been cut down for the purpose. There are 1,000 men, with four pieces of artillery, in camp near the Danville crossing, building boats. Just received information from Colonel Forbes, commanding Fort Donelson, that the enemy have captured the Thomas E. Tutt at Cumberland City, with 1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 lieutenants, and 23 privates on board, and has just captured another, name not known, and two barges. From information that I consider reliable Lyon intends moving on Green River bridge.

Very respectfully,

S. MEREDITH,

Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., December 12, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

There are at Springfield, Ill., a large number of recruits for Sherman's army. Please order the whole camp removed from Camp Butler to Nashville. At the latter place they will be of use whilst waiting an opportunity to join the regiments to which they belong.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 12, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I have the troops ready to make the attack on the enemy as soon as the sheet which now covers the ground has melted sufficiently to enable the men to march. As the whole country is now covered with a sheet of ice so hard and slippery it is utterly impossible for troops to ascend the slopes, or even move over level ground in anything like order. It has taken the entire day to place my cavalry in position, and it has only been finally effected with imminent risk and many serious accidents, resulting from the number of horses falling with their riders on the roads. Under these circumstances I believe an attack at this time would only result in a useless sacrifice of life.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No change in my front this morning.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to request that you will direct Colonel Loomis, chief of artillery, District of the Tennessee, to order Battery E, First Michigan Artillery, to relieve Battery A, First Ohio Light Artillery, and the Twenty-fifth Indiana Light Battery to relieve Bridges' Battery Illinois Light Artillery, without delay. The two batteries that I desire to have relieved have served through the Chickamauga, East Tennessee, Atlanta, and the recent Franklin campaigns, and need an opportunity to rest. The two batteries asked for, Colonel Loomis informs me, are supplied with an entire new equipment, and one of them, the First Michigan battery, has been in camp at this place one year. I have the honor to request that you will direct that the above-mentioned

batteries may be ordered to report to the chief of artillery of this corps to-day, in order that the horses now in possession of the batteries to be relieved may be assigned to the other batteries of the corps.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR,
No. 30.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Tenn., December 12, 1864.

I. Division commanders will have their men fully supplied to-day with such clothing as they may need. They will instruct their inspectors to go through the camps and make a personal examination of the troops and see what articles are needed. This clothing must be drawn to-day.

II. The troops of this command must have in their haversacks three days' rations, counting from to-morrow morning, and they must be supplied this evening with sixty rounds of ammunition per man.

By order of Brigadier General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant General.

Weekly report of effective force of Fourth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Wood, U. S. Army, commencing at 12 o'clock, December 1, 1864.

| Component | Infantry | | | Artillery | | | Cavalry | | |
|---|----------|----|----|-----------|----|----|---------|----|----|
| | 1st | 2d | 3d | 1st | 2d | 3d | 1st | 2d | 3d |
| Headquarters Fourth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Headquarters First Division, Brig. Gen. N. Kimball | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| First Brigade, Col. F. M. Bailey | 10 | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Second Brigade, Brig. Gen. W. P. Whitaker | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Third Brigade, Brig. Gen. W. Horse | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 40 | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Headquarters Second Division, Brig. Gen. W. L. Russell | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| First Brigade, Col. E. H. Hays | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Second Brigade, Col. J. G. Lusk | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Third Brigade, Col. J. C. Brown | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Headquarters Third Division, Brig. Gen. Samuel Beatty | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| First Brigade, Col. A. D. Straight | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Second Brigade, Col. F. Sidney Post | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Third Brigade, Col. Fred. Knicker | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Artillery Brigade, Capt. Lyman Bridges | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grand total | 145 | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

* The transfers herein recommended were made by paragraphs III and IV, Special Field Orders, No. 310, Department of the Cumberland, December 12, 1864.

Weekly report of effective force of Fourth Army Corps, &c.—Continued.

| Command. | Artillery. | | | Total. | | Average. | Horses. | Cans. |
|--|------------|------|--------|------------|--------|----------|---------|-------|
| | Companies. | Men. | Total. | Companies. | Men. | | | |
| Headquarters Fourth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood. | | | | 70 | 132 | 142 | | |
| Headquarters First Division, Brig. Gen. N. Kimball. | | | | 42 | 80 | 93 | | |
| First Brigade, Col. I. M. Kirby. | | | | 65 | 1,532 | 1,627 | | |
| Second Brigade, Brig. Gen. W. C. Whitaker. | | | | 92 | 2,376 | 2,470 | | |
| Third Brigade, Brig. Gen. W. Greene. | | | | 102 | 2,140 | 2,242 | | |
| Total. | | | | 301 | 6,130 | 6,431 | | |
| Headquarters Second Division, Brig. Gen. W. L. Elliott. | | | | 11 | 45 | 50 | | |
| First Brigade, Col. E. Doolittle. | | | | 31 | 1,403 | 1,584 | | |
| Second Brigade, Col. J. O. Lamm. | | | | 39 | 1,451 | 1,530 | | |
| Third Brigade, Col. J. Conrad. | | | | 41 | 1,329 | 1,393 | | |
| Total. | | | | 111 | 4,929 | 5,507 | | |
| Headquarters Third Division, Brig. Gen. Samuel Beatty. | | | | 15 | 281 | 316 | | |
| First Brigade, Col. A. D. Streight. | | | | 32 | 1,610 | 1,728 | | |
| Second Brigade, Col. P. Sidney Ford. | | | | 31 | 1,641 | 1,714 | | |
| Third Brigade, Col. Fred. Knebel. | | | | 52 | 860 | 924 | | |
| Total. | | | | 120 | 4,340 | 4,682 | | |
| Artillery Brigade, Capt. Lamm. | 24 | 750 | 794 | 34 | 683 | 718 | 587 | 10 |
| Bridges. | | | | | | | | |
| Grand total. | 79 | 750 | 794 | 514 | 15,901 | 16,615 | | |

T. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Nashville, December 12, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

My signal officers report that the enemy withdrew all but a picket-line from the advance works in front of General Wood to-day, and that they are constructing a second line in rear, which they appear to occupy in force. They also report the enemy's camp-fires extending several miles up the river, and observed the movement of troops and trains in that direction to-day. The reports are rather indefinite. I have ordered a more careful examination to be made early in the morning, and will also go out early myself. I think the river should be guarded very carefully from here to Gallatin, and for a short distance above that point, though it seems hardly possible that Hood can attempt any move at this time.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 178. Nashville, Tenn., December 12, 1861.

1. All preparations will be made to-day for active operations. The men will have three days' rations in haversacks this evening. Supply trains, including forage, will be loaded and ready to move to-morrow morning. Ammunition trains will be fully loaded. Artillery horses will be roughed out, as far as practicable.

XIV. Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, chief quartermaster Department of the Ohio, will proceed to Louisville, Ky., and establish his office there.

By command of Major General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HIGGS, THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1861.

Major General SCHOFIELD:

Colonel Hayes, One hundred and fifth Ohio, reports that this morning large numbers of the enemy, with trains, were moving toward our left. There appears to be some movement amongst them. This p. m. a column moved from their first works back to their second line. Some shells from Fort Negley seemed to reach them, and they passed directly to the rear, out of sight. Am not certain it was to avoid the shells, or permanent movement. Would send out a reconnoissance, but it is so late that it would be dark before they got far enough to discover anything. There was a reported movement of a skirmish advance on our right, but has not developed anything yet. I mention this to enable you to compare with reports from other parts of the line.

J. D. COX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEES,
Nashville, Tenn., December 12, 1861.

Maj. Gen. HENRY W. HALLACK,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: I have the honor to introduce to you hereby Col. William F. Lynch, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, who has been serving for the past eighteen months in my command as regimental and brigade commander. He entered the service in April, 1861, as a private, and afterward raised the Fifty-eighth Illinois, and was mustered into service with it December 20, 1861. Since that time he has been in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh (where he was captured, after a heavy loss in officers and men), Fort De Russy, Pleasant Hill, and Yellow Bayou, La., in which last battle he was severely wounded in the leg while cheering his men to the charge. As regimental and brigade commander he has few equals in energy, decision, and tact in the service; as an officer he is cool and courageous, and as a gentleman courteous and refined. His services and ability entitle him to a higher

position than the one which he now holds, and I earnestly recommend that he be appointed brigadier-general of volunteers as an act of justice and policy.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. SMITH,

Major-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 12, 1864.*

Col. B. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:

I have the honor to report that I am here with my command. General Orders, No. 227, breaking up the Sixteenth Army Corps, has been received. I am now, by Special Field Orders, No. 334, dated headquarters Department of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn., December 6, 1864, called the Detachment Army of the Tennessee. I make this my report to show you my whereabouts.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. SMITH,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

December 12, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Received dispatch of yesterday, and will be in according to orders.

A. J. SMITH,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

December 12, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

All is quiet in our front. No change from yesterday.

A. J. SMITH,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

Nashville, Tenn., December 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,

Comdg. First Division, Detachment Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he desires the subsistence trains to be loaded as rapidly as possible with field rations, and that full rations be drawn to include the 15th instant to-day. Care should be taken that the cartridge-boxes of the men and the ammunition-chests of the batteries are full, and that each regiment has its ten additional rounds per man.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOUGH,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 12, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson,

Comd'g Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

GENERAL: The major general commanding directs me to inform you that he desires to see you at these headquarters this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
No. 35 } Nashville, Tenn., December 12, 1861.

I. The cavalry depot will be moved to the ground on the north side of the Cumberland River designated by Capt. John Green, special inspector cavalry, and Lieut. Col. G. C. Moore, commanding cavalry depot. Capt. W. M. Wilson, cavalry depot quartermaster, will take immediate measures for the removal of his stores and furnishings to the proposed location. Stables will be erected without delay for the reception of cavalry horses.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

H. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
FIELD ORDERS, } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
No. 36 } Nashville, Tenn., December 12, 1861.

I. Commanders of divisions and detachments will send to these headquarters by 2 o'clock this p. m. an approximate field return of their respective commands, both mounted and dismounted. This return will show the number of men they have actually in hand.

II. Commanders of divisions and detached brigades will place strong guards around their camps and prevent the men from straggling.

III. The Chicago Board of Trade Battery, Captain Robinson, will report for temporary duty to Brigadier-General Croxton, commanding First Brigade, First Division Cavalry.

IV. The Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry will, without delay, report to Brigadier-General Croxton, commanding First Brigade, First Division Cavalry, for temporary duty with his brigade.

V. The command is not expected to move to-morrow. Commanding officers will take measures to get their baggage from the other bank of the river and supply their men with fuel.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

* Recorded in order book as No. 4.

SPRINGFIELD, TENN., *December 12, 1864.*

General McCook, *Bowling Green:*

The following dispatch has just been received from Nashville:

Your telegram received. The major-general directs that you make the best defense you can at Springfield and communicate with General McCook, who is at Bowling Green, who will move at once to intercept General Lyon. He directs that you will hold Springfield to the last. No reinforcements can be sent from here. Do not fail to communicate with General McCook.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

It is reported here that General Lyon has crossed the Cumberland River above Clarksville, and has burned the water-tanks and destroyed the trestle-work at Hampton's Station, on the Memphis branch, two miles west of the State line. His force is variously estimated from 2,000 to 5,000. The telegraph operators have all been ordered in between here and the State line, and we have nothing later than 4 p. m. to-day.

T. J. DOWNEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fort Donelson, Tenn., December 12, 1864.
(Via Clarksville 130h.)

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHITTLE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: A force of rebels numbering about 4,000 mounted men, with nine pieces of artillery, commanded by Brigadier-General Lyon, U. S. Army, crossed Cumberland River at Cumberland City, on the 10th and 11th instant. While crossing they captured and burned three transports and several barges, and several prisoners, including Lieutenant-Colonel Buchanan, Seventh Missouri Infantry, all of whom they paroled. Messengers with the intelligence have been sent to Hopkinsville, Ky., and Clarksville, Tenn. The one sent to Hopkinsville has returned, having gone and returned safely. Their movements indicate that they will attempt the capture of Hopkinsville.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. FORBES,
Colonel, Commanding.

BOWLING GREEN, *December 12, 1864.*

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT, *Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:*

Lyon reported occupied La Fayette, Christian County, day before yesterday. No definite information as to his movements. Scouts will be sent from Russellville this afternoon, and I will send you first information received. I will stop Watkins at Franklin, and march there with La Grange, if I learn the enemy are coming in that direction, through Middletown or Russellville.

E. M. MCCOOK,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 12, 1864*
(Received 11)

Brigadier-General McCook:

Your dispatch of to-day is received. General Donaldson received a dispatch from Springfield, saying, "Lyon is in."

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of Red River, and moving in the direction of Springfield." Get your forces together as soon as possible and go for him. The commanding officer at Springfield will give you all the information he gets.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

Weekly report of effective force of the troops of the District of Tennessee, Maj. Gen. Lovell H. Rousseau, U. S. Army, commanding, for December 12, 1864.

| Command. | Headquarters. | | | Infantry. | | | Cavalry. | | |
|---|---------------|----------|-----------|------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|------|--------|
| | Officers. | Men. | Total. | Officers. | Men. | Total. | Officers. | Men. | Total. |
| District of Tennessee, Major-General Rousseau. | 10 | 63 | 73 | | | | | | |
| First Brigade, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps, Col. U. G. Donnell. | 8 | 2 | 10 | 40 | 1,075 | 1,115 | | | |
| Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. John P. Miller. | 3 | | 3 | 111 | 3,340 | 3,451 | | | |
| Unassigned regiments, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps: | | | | | | | | | |
| 183d Illinois Infantry, Maj. W. G. Board. | | | | 23 | 473 | 496 | | | |
| 118th Ohio Infantry, Col. T. O. Boone. | | | | 20 | 640 | 660 | | | |
| Detachment 50th Ohio Infantry, Capt. E. M. Sargent. | | | | 1 | 50 | 51 | | | |
| 68th New York Infantry, Maj. M. Remondaux. | | | | 3 | 125 | 128 | | | |
| 68th New York Infantry, Col. F. Prince-Salon. | | | | 18 | 204 | 222 | | | |
| 75th Pennsylvania Infantry, Lieut. Col. A. V. Mataloni. | | | | 13 | 150 | 163 | | | |
| 106th Ohio Infantry, Lieut. Col. Gustavus Tafel. | | | | 11 | 171 | 182 | | | |
| 6th Kentucky Infantry, Lieut. Col. R. C. Dawkins. | | | | 11 | 171 | 182 | | | |
| Detachment 29th Pennsylvania Infantry, Lieut. Col. A. B. Bonaffon. | | | | 2 | 113 | 115 | | | |
| 11th Minnesota Infantry, Lieut. Col. John Ball. | | | | 20 | 704 | 724 | | | |
| 173d Ohio Infantry, Col. J. R. Hurd. | | | | 20 | 673 | 693 | | | |
| 178th Ohio Infantry, Lieut. Col. D. McCoy. | | | | 12 | 230 | 242 | | | |
| 43d Wisconsin Infantry, Lieut. Col. Byron Palmer. | | | | 27 | 715 | 742 | | | |
| 20th Michigan Infantry, Col. Thomas Bayler. | | | | 21 | 505 | 526 | | | |
| 61st Illinois Infantry. | | | | | | | | | |
| 9th Ohio Battery, Capt. H. H. York. | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 8 | 2 | 11 | 410 | 10,680 | 11,130 | | | |
| Unattached troops: | | | | | | | | | |
| Post, Nashville, Brig. Gen. John P. Miller. | | | | 50 | 1,801 | 1,851 | 42 | 500 | 542 |
| 183d Ohio Infantry. | | | | | | | | | |
| Garrison Artillery, Maj. John J. Ely. | 2 | 5 | 7 | | | | | | |
| Springfield, Tenn., Col. T. J. Downey. | | | | 12 | 520 | 532 | | | |
| Fort Donelson, Tenn., Lieut. Col. R. G. Brett. | 2 | 2 | 4 | | | | | | |
| Clarksville, Tenn., Col. A. A. Smith. | 2 | 3 | 5 | | | | | | |
| Oakville, Tenn., Col. James Chilton. | | | | | | | | | |
| Nashville and Northwestern Railroad, Col. C. H. Thompson. | 5 | | 5 | 57 | 1,820 | 1,877 | | | |
| Murfreesborough, Tenn., Brigadier-General Van Clev. | 8 | 9 | 17 | 20 | 1,297 | 1,317 | | | |

a No effective force report received.

Weekly report of effective force of the troops of the District of Tennessee, &c.—Continued.

| Command. | Headquarters. | | | Infantry. | | | Cavalry. | | |
|--|---------------|------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|
| | Officers. | Men. | Total. | Officers. | Men. | Total. | Officers. | Men. | Total. |
| Unattached troops. Continued. | | | | | | | | | |
| 3d and 4th Michigan Infantry, 1st Lt. Ohio, and 14th Indiana Infantry. | | | | | | | | | |
| Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, Major General Milroy. | 2 | | 2 | 40 | 945 | 985 | 15 | 400 | 415 |
| Bridgeport, Ala., Capt. N. A. Baldwin. | | | | | | | | | |
| District of Northern Alabama, Brig. Gen. R. N. Granger. | 6 | 27 | 33 | | | | | | |
| Post Station, Col. W. Krzyzanowski. | 7 | 31 | 38 | 33 | 700 | 733 | 73 | 1,425 | 1,498 |
| Nashville, Tenn., Brig. Gen. J. C. Starkweather. | 6 | 18 | 24 | 0 | 209 | 209 | 73 | 2,122 | 2,195 |
| Total. | 10 | 67 | 137 | 243 | 7,073 | 7,316 | 209 | 4,855 | 5,064 |

| Command. | Artillery. | | | Total. | | | Cavalry. | | |
|---|------------|------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------|------|--------|
| | Officers. | Men. | Total. | Officers. | Men. | Total. | Officers. | Men. | Total. |
| District of Tennessee, Major General Hancock. | | | | 10 | 62 | 72 | | | |
| First Brigade, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps, Col. C. C. Donnell. | | | | 5 | 1,077 | 1,082 | | | |
| Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. John F. Miller. | | | | 141 | 3,300 | 3,441 | | | |
| Unassigned regiments, Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps. | | | | | | | | | |
| 60th Illinois Infantry, Maj. W. G. Bond. | | | | 23 | 473 | 496 | 103 | | |
| 115th Ohio Infantry, Col. T. V. Boone. | | | | 20 | 616 | 636 | | | |
| Detachment 50th Ohio Infantry, Capt. F. M. Sargent. | | | | 1 | 50 | 51 | | | |
| 58th New York Infantry, Maj. M. Eschbaur. | | | | 3 | 135 | 138 | | | |
| 68th New York Infantry, Col. F. Prince Palm. | | | | 10 | 291 | 301 | | | |
| 75th Pennsylvania Infantry, Lieut. Col. A. V. Matzdon. | | | | 12 | 120 | 132 | | | |
| 100th Ohio Infantry, Lieut. Col. Gustavus T. Abel. | | | | 13 | 451 | 464 | | | |
| 6th Kentucky Infantry, Lieut. Col. R. C. Dawkins. | | | | 13 | 173 | 186 | | | |
| Detachment 75th Pennsylvania Infantry, Lieut. Col. A. D. Bonham. | | | | 2 | 124 | 126 | | | |
| 11th Minnesota Infantry, Lieut. Col. John Ball. | | | | 30 | 704 | 734 | | | |
| 173d Ohio Infantry, Col. J. R. Hard. | | | | 20 | 672 | 692 | | | |
| 175th Ohio Infantry, Lieut. Col. D. McCoy. | | | | 22 | 700 | 722 | | | |
| 43d Wisconsin Infantry, Lieut. Col. Byron Palmer. | | | | 27 | 515 | 542 | | | |
| 29th Michigan Infantry, Col. Thomas Taylor. | | | | 31 | 565 | 596 | | | |
| 61st Illinois Infantry. | | | | | | | | | |
| 9th Ohio Battery, Capt. H. H. York. | 3 | 133 | 136 | 3 | 133 | 136 | | | |
| Total. | 3 | 132 | 135 | 432 | 10,831 | 11,263 | | | |

a No effective force report received.

Weekly report of effective force of the troops of the District of Tennessee, &c.—Continued.

| Command. | Artillery. | | | Total. | | Artillery. | Horses. | Cattle. |
|---|------------|----------|------------|-----------|----------|------------|---------|---------|
| | Infantry. | Cavalry. | Artillery. | Infantry. | Cavalry. | | | |
| Unattached troops: | | | | 100 | 2,744 | 2,644 | | |
| Post, Nashville, Bdg. Gen. John F. Miller. | | | | | | | | |
| 10th Ohio Infantry. | | | | 24 | 1,000 | 1,132 | 458 | 50 |
| Garrison Artillery, Maj. John J. Ely. | | | | 17 | 530 | 541 | | |
| Springfield, Tenn., Col. T. J. Downey. | 2 | 100 | 111 | 1 | 111 | 115 | 50 | 6 |
| Fort Donelson, Tenn., Lieut. Col. E. C. Buff. | 0 | 110 | 111 | 5 | 111 | 120 | 90 | 8 |
| Clarksville, Tenn., Col. A. A. Smith. | 1 | 110 | 111 | 1 | 115 | 110 | | 8 |
| Chattanooga, Tenn., Col. James G. Hill. | 2 | 100 | 103 | 64 | 1,000 | 1,064 | 90 | 2 |
| Nashville and Northwestern Railroad, Col. G. R. Thompson. | 0 | 200 | 200 | 10 | 1,000 | 1,010 | | 57 |
| Murfreesborough, Tenn., Bdg. Major-General Van Cleave. | | | | | | | | |
| 3d and 4th Michigan Infantry, 101st Ohio, and 140th Indiana Infantry. | 3 | 94 | 97 | 00 | 1,170 | 1,164 | 2 | 8 |
| Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, Major-General Miller. | 2 | 100 | 111 | 2 | 111 | 113 | 1 | 4 |
| Mobile, Ala., Capt. N. A. Baldwin. | | | | 0 | 27 | 23 | | |
| District of Northern Alabama, Bdg. Gen. R. S. Granger. | 10 | 111 | 121 | 110 | 1,000 | 2,121 | 167 | 32 |
| Post Stevenson, Col. W. Koryzanevsky. | 1 | 110 | 111 | 50 | 2,344 | 2,601 | 1,173 | 6 |
| Nashville, Tenn., Bdg. Gen. J. C. Starkweather. | | | | | | | | |
| Total. | 13 | 2,745 | 2,758 | 178 | 15,000 | 15,057 | 2,384 | 101 |

a Non-effective force, reported as lost.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS,)
No. 145.)

HUGHES, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Chattanooga, Tenn., December 12, 1864.

IV. The following is hereby announced as the armament of the permanent garrison of Chattanooga, Tenn., and the disposition of that armament will not be changed except by orders from these headquarters: Fort Creighton, eight 3-inch Rodman guns and six light 12-pounder guns; Fort Phelps, seven 3-inch Rodman guns and three light 12-pounder guns; Battery McAbam, four 12-pounder howitzers; Battery Bushnell, two 20-pounder Parrott guns and two 3-inch Rodman guns; Lunette O'Meara, two 30-pounder Parrott guns and six light 12-pounder guns; Redoubt Putnam, two 4½-inch Rodman guns and four 12-pounder howitzers; Battery Erwin, four 3-inch Rodman guns and two 12-pounder howitzers; Battery Jones, one 20-pounder Parrott gun, two 12-pounder howitzers, and three light 12-pounder guns; Fort Lytle, three 20-pounder Parrott guns and two light 12-pounder guns; Fort Critchfield, one 4½-inch Rodman gun and two light 12-pounder guns; Fort Milulotzy, four 4½-inch Rodman guns and four 3-inch Rod-

man guns; Redoubt Coolidge, two 3-inch Rodman guns and two 12-pounder howitzers; Cameron Hill, four 100-pounder Parrott guns; Redoubt Carpenter, two 100-pounder Parrott guns, two 3-inch Rodman guns, and two light 12-pounder guns.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

S. HOFFMAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

TUNNEL HILL, December 12, 1864.

Capt. H. A. Ford:

There are thirty-three men at Graysville bridge and twenty-four at Graysville.

M. G. HAMILL,
Commanding.
By W. T. BENNETT,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

BEAN'S STATION, December 12, 1864.

General SCHOFIELD:

Supply train will be up to-day. Arms and ammunition and subsistence will be issued to-night. All wagons will be left here in charge of infantry at this post. Infantry will be up early to-morrow. I leave with cavalry of Burbridge and Gillem to-morrow morning at daylight; we go via Rogersville and Kingsport, and hope to strike Bristol day after to-morrow night. Roads are quite heavy, but hope we can make it in time to cut enemy's train. Have sent a force to occupy pass into North Carolina. Hope you will hear good account of us.

GEO. STONEMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,
Louisville, Ky., December 12, 1864.

Major-General STONEMAN,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

Telegram from General Thomas says the rebel General Lyon has crossed the river below Clarksville and is moving on Bowling Green. He is reported at Hopkinsville, with about 2,000 men. A loyal citizen reports to Colonel Fairleigh that he was in Breckinridge's camp at Sparta, Tenn., a few days since. He says he saw about 5,000 men. Have you heard of any force being at Sparta?

G. M. HASCUM,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEXINGTON, December 12, 1864.
(Via Cumberland Gap.)

Brig. Maj. Gen. S. G. HUMPHREY,
Bean's Station:

An energetic post commander, who will stay at his post and attend to his duties, is needed at Camp Nelson. I would suggest that General

Fry be permanently relieved and Colonel Carpenter appointed. The report of Captain Saunders, acting assistant inspector general, shows a condition of affairs there that demands an immediate change. General Thomas left this morning for Louisville. He will, if possible, stay in the State until you return. Guerrillas are becoming very bold, and I fear may do serious injury if the command remains absent much longer. I know nothing officially of Forrest's movements, and hear nothing further of Lyon. All well.

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LOUISIA, KY., December 12, 1864.

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My forces have been in quiet possession of Paintsville and Salyersville. Up to last returns my scouts were in Bull [Knott County] and near Pound Gap. No indications of force entering in the State from that direction. Prentice did come in with about 300 men, but has not come down.

G. W. GALDUP,
Colonel, &c.

MOUNT STERLING, December 12, 1864.

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

We sent a scout toward the mountains Saturday morning, with orders to go until the position of the enemy could be ascertained. The scout consisted of a lieutenant and fifteen men, the largest we could send. They will go toward Jackson.

JOHN J. SEWELL,
Lieutenant and Acting Post Adjutant.

NASHVILLE, December 12, 1864.
(Received 11th.)

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH,
Paducah:

If you are satisfied of the correctness of the report of 1,000 rebels being at Danville bridge, on the Tennessee River, constructing boats, I desire you to send a sufficient force against them to drive them off, and destroy their work and means of crossing the river, if possible.
Answer.

HERO H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

LEXINGTON, December 12, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH,
Paducah, Ky.:

Send the battalion Fifth U. S. Colored Cavalry as soon as practicable, by boat, to Westport, on the Ohio River, with orders to disembark at that point and move thence at once to La Grange, on the Louisville and Lex

ington Railroad. Direct the commanding officer to report his arrival at Westport and at La Grange, both by telegraph and letter, to Brig. Gen. N. C. McLean, at this place. Acknowledge receipt, and state when the battalion will leave.

By order of Brevet Major-General Burbridge:

J. HATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Louisville, December 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

I have ordered the Ninth and Seventeenth Kentucky Regiments, here awaiting muster-out, to Bowling Green, to re-enforce the garrison, and Twenty-seventh Kentucky to Murfreesborough—all small regiments.

HUGH EWING,
Brigadier-General.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., *December 12, 1864.*

Capt. E. B. HARLAN,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Louisville, Ky.:

Brig. Gen. Ed. McCook is here from Nashville. Will have two brigades cavalry to-morrow night to watch movements of Lyon, &c.

S. P. LOVE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 12, 1864—1 p. m.*

Brevet Major-General HOVEY,

Indianapolis:

It is officially reported that you have twenty-eight enlisted men mounted on serviceable horses. The Secretary of War directs that these horses be immediately turned over to the quartermaster's department and sent forward to General Thomas, at Nashville. Condemned horses must be used for mounting orderlies not in the field.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to Cavalry Bureau.)

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 12, 1864.

His Excellency AUSTIN BLAIR,

Governor of Michigan:

GOVERNOR: Late advices from Canada, relating to the activity and designs of the Confederates with their sympathizing friends, makes me solicitous for the property of your citizens along the border. I have no apprehensions from the acts of armed bodies, of course, as my means of information are such as I hope to learn of the movements of any considerable force in season to anticipate them in any injury they may

attempt to inflict. With regard to the efforts of individuals or small parties to burn and plunder, I feel less at ease. The closing of the river between you and them will afford these miscreants unusual facilities for carrying their designs into execution, and it is for this reason I require the services of the regiment you are raising for home service as early as practicable. Will you have the goodness to inform me what portion of the regiment you have for my disposal at this time and the probable time the whole regiment will be in readiness for service? Of the portion of the border intrusted to my command it is unnecessary for me to assure you that your State is the most exposed, and hence it is I desire to have it most efficiently guarded as early as practicable. Please furnish me with this information at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 12, 1864—9 p. m.

(Received 8 a. m. 14th.)

MAJ. GEN. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

There is no change in the enemy's position in my front to-day. At length there are indications of a favorable change in the weather, and as soon as there is I shall move against the enemy, as everything is ready and prepared to assume the offensive. I have heard from Clarksville to-day, the wires being in working order to that place. Two gun-boats and a transport had arrived there from below, and report that the rebel General Lyon's means of recrossing the Cumberland were destroyed. I have ample force in pursuit of him to effectually destroy him, and I have no apprehension about the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The Cumberland River is constantly patrolled as high up as Carthage, and there is no evidence of the presence of the enemy in that direction. I am in hopes of a sufficient rise in the river to enable me to use the gun-boats in reopening the Cumberland as far as Nashville.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

The commanding officer of gun-boat *Pocata*, stationed at Paducah, telegraphs, under date of 11th, 6 p. m., that he had just been ninety-three miles up the Tennessee River, where he learned that General Lyon had crossed on the evening of the 8th with 2,000 cavalry and two pieces of artillery, marching for Clarksville. The *Pocata* towed to Paducah two large barges and two boats in which the rebels crossed the Tennessee River. I hear there were two heavy barges left at Johnsonville after the affair of November 4. I infer that the presence of this vessel diverted the rebels from making an attack on the transports here, and induced them to take up a position below bars, which we could not cross at the present stage of water. I have no intelligence from my gun-boats, which are due here to-day.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 13, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Please see my telegram of this date to Lieutenant Commander Fitch. Will give you convoy down to convoy transports as soon as you wish. Lieutenant Naille heard from or at Cumberland City that General Lyon had two guns at Paducah and Fort Donelson. General Lyon reported to have from five to nine guns. Naille heard along the river that Lyon had gone to Hopkinsville. Two or three transports declined convoy from Smithland. The brigade of cavalry had not arrived there. I will have three good tin-clads to convoy it up as soon as those here return.

S. P. LEE,

Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Lieut. Commander LIE ROY FITCH:

Your telegram of 11th instant is just received. Lieutenant Naille, with two gun-boats, conveying two naval transports loaded with 100 pounds of ammunition for your vessels and towing two coal barges, was to have left Smithland last Sunday morning for this place. I have no intelligence of him since he left Mound City Saturday morning. The Peosta returned to Paducah Sunday morning with two large barges and two boats, in which Forrest crossed the Tennessee River, near Welch Bridge, on the evening of the 8th instant.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 13, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieut. Commander LIE ROY FITCH:

Your two telegrams of 8th instant, sent to Mound City, just received by gun-boats Nos. 19, 23, and 15, which bring two coal barges and a full regulation supply of ammunition for you. The Bennett left Smithland 1 a. m. Sunday for Louisville with the ammunition you desired. What sort of works and guns did you engage on the 8th? Where at, and with what effect? The endurance of the Neosho is gratifying. Lieutenant Naille was delayed by searching for rebel ammunition opposite Cumberland City, where he captured nine boxes of carbine cartridges and one caisson. I will give army transports convoy from here as soon as desired.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Mississippi Squadron.

U. S. STEAMER MOORE,
Belvoir Nashville, December 13, 1864.

Adj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Comdg. Army of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: The indication of the weather is such to-day that I think you may soon look for a change, probably by morning. If you make my move in which I can be of any service, please give me timely notice,

as the river is now so low that I cannot move but one of the heavy boats, and I will have to drop her down below Robinson's Island by hand; that is, by lines, which will be slow work; it is so bad there that I cannot trust to steam to take her through. If there is a change in the weather, so that the men can move on the monitor to handle her, I will commence moving in the morning early.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LE ROY FITCH,
Lieut. Commander, Comdy. Tenth District, Miss. Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 13, 1864.

Lieut. Commander LE ROY FITCH,
Commanding Tenth District, Mississippi Squadron:

SIR: I have the honor, by direction of the major general commanding, to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, and in reply I am instructed to say that should there really be a change of weather and a rise in the river results sufficient to enable you to move your fleet with facility, it is the desire of the major general commanding to have you co-operate in any move which may take place against the enemy, by engaging the batteries on the river below the city, and thus attracting their attention while the troops are in motion against the enemy's position. The major general commanding returns his thanks for your cordial co-operation heretofore, as well as for the tender of your services in future movements, of which timely notice will be given you. The major general commanding will be much indebted to you if you will have the river above the city as far up as Carthage, if you can get up as far, patrolled by one or two boats of your fleet constantly, in order that any movement on the part of the enemy in that direction may be instantly detected.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

U. S. STEAMER MOORE,
Below Nashville, December 13, 1864.

Capt. ROBERT H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Nashville, Tenn.:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date. I will have a patrol of the river kept up above, as requested, and do all in my power to fill all the wishes the general commanding may designate. I sincerely hope that we may before this time to-morrow be cheered by better prospects as to weather and water. If the weather and water will permit I will surely give the rebel batteries below sufficient amusement to keep them occupied, and at the same time try to induce them to bring as many guns on the river as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LE ROY FITCH,
Lieut. Commander, Comdy. Tenth District, Miss. Squadron.

NASHVILLE, *December 13, 1864.*

Major-General DODGE,
Saint Louis, Mo.:

If you have any further reinforcements to send to this place, I would
ask you to send three regiments of infantry or cavalry, if you can
are them, to Paducah, to report to General Meredith for special duty
driving the enemy from Danville bridge, on the Tennessee River.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 13, 1864—8 p. m.*

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

Reconnaissance to-day showed enemy's force all around; in greatest
strength on right, where some artillery opened. Thaw has begun, and
tomorrow we can move without skates. Rebel General Lyon crossed
the Cumberland twenty miles below Clarksville, Sunday, by capturing
transport; so we may lose use of Louisville railroad soon, and com-
munication by telegraph, but he cannot stay long; not strong enough
this run from Murfreesborough to Chattanooga. All quiet in that
area and in East Tennessee.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

SPECIAL ORDERS, *U. S. ARMY, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,*
No. 149. *City Point, Va., December 13, 1864.*

I. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, U. S. Volunteers, will proceed immedi-
ately to Nashville, Tenn., reporting by telegraph to the lieutenant-
general commanding his arrival at Louisville, Ky., and also his arrival
Nashville, Tenn.

By command of Lieutenant General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, *U. S. ARMY, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,*
No. 341. *Nashville, Tenn., December 13, 1864.*

I. Brig. Gen. E. Upton, brevet major general of volunteers, having
reported at these headquarters in obedience to orders from Headquar-
ters of the Army, is assigned to duty with the Cavalry Corps, Mil-
itary Division of the Mississippi, and will report in person to Bvt.
Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson, commanding.

IX. The Sixteenth U. S. Colored Infantry is hereby ordered to report
for temporary duty to Lieut. Col. H. C. Wharton, U. S. Engineers,
chief topographical engineer, Department of the Cumberland.

By command of Major General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General

CIRCULAR.] HQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 13, 1861.

Hereafter corps commanders will use the necessary means of keeping both officers and men in camp at night, and all other times, except when required by military reasons to be absent. The liability of a movement at any moment against the enemy requires that every man should be constantly at his post.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1861.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

No change in my front this morning.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS,) HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 22.) Nashville, Tenn., December 13, 1861.

Maj. W. F. Goodspeed, First Ohio Light Artillery, having been ordered to report to these headquarters for duty, is hereby assigned to temporary duty as chief of artillery Fourth Army Corps. He will be respected accordingly.

By command of Brigadier-General Wood:

WM. H. SINCLAIR,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, December 13, 1861.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Ohio:

MAJOR: In reply to the commanding general's note of last evening, I have the honor to report that the enemy's principal line of works on the Nolensville pike is held by them this morning with apparently the usual force, though I think a smaller and more advanced work (near the old line of trenches dug by General Steedman's command) is held only by picket reserves. Their picket-line is not so far advanced as it was in our front three days ago, and our own line has resumed the position originally taken by it when we came into position here. The smoke of camp-fires appears extended farther to our left, indicating the extension of the enemy's line in that direction, though refused. The impression is strong amongst all my officers who watched their operations yesterday that some considerable movement was made by them toward their right and rear, but I have not myself been able to reach a definite conclusion on the subject. Everything is quiet on the line this morning, and no appearance of any movement in the enemy's camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

December 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS :

All quiet this morning in our front. No changes from yesterday. First Division is ordered to fire their guns at 12 m.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 13, 1864. (Received 7.15 p. m.)

Major-General SCHOFIELD :

The reconnaissance made by a portion of my command this afternoon sought out the enemy in strong force between the Nolensville and Murfreesborough pikes beyond the residence of Mr. Rains, but not extending to the Murfreesborough pike. They seemed to be strongest at the left of the railroad, where they have works extending as if to protect their flank. General Lowrey occupies a house about half a mile beyond Rains' house as headquarters. Citizens, rebel women, siding there informed us that General Hood rode that part of his lines yesterday, having his engineer with him, and directed the building of iron works, and expressed himself confident of taking Nashville.

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

(Same to General Thomas.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, { HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 36. { MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, December 13, 1864.

III. Brig. Gen. B. H. Grierson is relieved from the command of the Fourth Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi. IV. Bvt. Maj. Gen. E. Upton, U. S. Volunteers, having reported for duty in accordance with Special [Field] Orders, No. [341], from Headquarters Department of the Cumberland, is assigned to the command of the Fourth Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

V. Bvt. Maj. Gen. E. Upton will proceed to Louisville, Ky., Saint Louis, Mo., and Memphis, Tenn., for the purpose of collecting the men, arms, and transportation of his division and bringing it to Nashville, and Louisville, Ky. If necessary General Upton will take measures to furnish his troops with new arms and equipments.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson :

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 13, 1864—1 a. m.

DEMANDING OFFICER FOURTH OHIO CAVALRY :

You will, without delay, take position with your regiment at some convenient point twelve or fifteen miles above here, at or near the Cum-

berland River, and watch all the crossings between Gallatin and this place. There are indications of movements of the enemy in some force in that direction. You will do all in your power to keep me informed of everything of importance. If practicable, get scouts to Spring Hill, Green Hill, and Lebanon.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

NASHVILLE, December 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. M. McCook,
Bowling Green, Ky. :

Lyon seems to have avoided Springfield, and is probably making for Hopkinsville or Russellville. Send out scouts to ascertain his whereabouts and movements, and move against him wherever found.

By command of General Thomas:

HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BOWLING GREEN, December 14, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps, Nashville :

La Grange moving to Franklin to join Watkins. I will be there this afternoon. Colonel Johnson telegraphs from Russellville 1,200 rebels entered Hopkinsville at 3 o'clock yesterday. I move in accordance with your dispatch, taking for granted that Lyon's main force is moving on Springfield; I will march from Franklin there. Is this right? Colonel Downey furnishes no information from Springfield, except that it was reported Lyon had crossed and burned water tanks near State line. It seems impossible to get accurate information from these posts. Franklin is a better point than this to move in any direction.

E. M. McCOOK.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General McCook,
Franklin, Ky. :

Lyon was at or near Hopkinsville yesterday reconnoitering and ranging about the country. If you can get in upon him while in this condition you will be able to break him up entirely. Have ordered a party from Croxton's brigade after the horses at Franklin.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

BOWLING GREEN, December 13, 1864—10 a. m.

General J. D. WATKINS,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade, Franklin :

Remain in Franklin until I come this afternoon. La Grange is marching down to meet you there.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General.

FRANKLIN, KY., December 13, 1864.

Major Brigadier-General WATKINS:

Send me word by these couriers when you will reach here. I wish to move on Russellville at daylight, and want you to camp near here to-night. Write me where you are when this meets you. La Grange will be here to-night.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BOWLING GREEN, December 13, 1864—11 a. m.

Col. O. H. LA GRANGE,

Commanding Second Brigade:

Lyon is reported to be moving on Springfield, and it is necessary that we reach Franklin to-night if possible. You will march immediately, and camp near the place. I will go there this p. m. You will report to me on your arrival and let me know the whereabouts of your brigade.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BOWLING GREEN, December 13, 1864.

(Received 3.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General McCook,

Franklin:

Colonel Johnson, at Russellville, just telegraphed that the enemy, 500 or 2,000 strong, are advancing on Russellville; are at Elkton, half advance is skirmishing with his men. They have four pieces of artillery. Will you go to his help? If not, he will, as he says, have to fall back. Answer.

S. P. LOVE,
Colonel, Commanding.

FRANKLIN, December 13, 1864—1 p. m.

Col. S. P. LOVE,

Bowling Green:

Telegraph Colonel Johnson I have sent a courier to him that a brigade will start to him at daylight, and to have his scouts to watch the rebel movements, that we will get on the right track at once.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,

Russellville, Ky., December 13, 1864.

General McCook:

SIR: I was ordered by the commanding officer at Bowling Green to report to you the position of the enemy below. The commander at Fort Donelson reported on Sunday that General Lyon, with from 3,000 to 4,000 men, crossed the Cumberland fifteen miles above the fort, moving in the direction of Hopkinsville, Ky. I have not been able yet to ascertain the strength of the rebels, but think it is not over

1,200, if that strong. They burned the trestle-work on the Memphis branch road ten miles this side of Clarksville. They were at Hopkinsville last night. I have 400 mounted men here ready to move at once. If another regiment could be sent to co-operate with us, and move from this point on the enemy, I think the command could be broken up. I will wait to hear from you.

Your obedient servant,

S. F. JOHNSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifty-second Kentucky Vols., Commanding.

FRANKLIN, KY., December 15, 1864.—3.30 p. m.

Colonel JOHNSON:

I will start a brigade to Russellville at daylight in the morning. Keep your scouts out and gain definite information as to the movements of the enemy, so that no time may be lost in pursuit. Let your scouting parties follow him so closely that no mistake may be made as to the direction he marches in; I don't want to march my troops on a false trail. If you gain any information you think of importance enough to communicate to me here, send it through to night, and let the messenger impress my horses he may find to carry it. I will leave here to join you in the morning, unless something happens that requires me to go some place else.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—You must not let them drive you, if you can possibly help it, as I will get there as soon as possible.

RUSSELLVILLE, December 14, 1864.

(Received 3.50 p. m.)

General E. M. McCook,
Franklin, Ky.:

We have developed the rebels' strength at Hopkinsville; drove in their pickets. Had one man killed. Killed and wounded several. They were in the town 1,500 strong this morning. They are conscripting every able-bodied man.

S. F. JOHNSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifty-second Kentucky, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Louisville, December 13, 1864.

Maj. J. B. BEAUMONT,
Asst. Adj. Gen., Cavalry Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: For the information of the general commanding the corps, I hereby respectfully report the condition of the division: The Second Brigade are all mounted except the Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, who will draw their horses to-day. There will then probably remain in the quartermaster's corral ready for issue enough horses to mount one regiment of Colonel Miller's brigade, which regiment's requisition

will be approved to-day, and they will draw their horses to-morrow. I have received 1,130 horses from the impressment in Louisville and vicinity, out of which about 100 will be rejected by the inspectors.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELLI LONG,
Brigadier General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

NASHVILLE, December 13, 1864.

Col. A. A. SMITH,
Clarksville:

What news have you of Lyon's movements?

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 13, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding:

I sent 200 men on train last night to see damage to railroad and telegraph. They found forty feet trestle burned ten miles from here. They spliced wire to State line. Report Lyon at or near Hopkinsville with detachment of his command, roaming around country, conscripting, &c. out guard to-day with men to repair bridge. Also sent transport down river with guard to look after battery; have just returned. Report they met two gun boats and one transport coming up; think river is clear. Gun boats have not arrived. Will report further.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 13, 1864.

Col. T. J. DOWNEY,
Springfield:

What further news have you of the rebel General Lyon's movements? What is the strength of your command? You must resist all attacks, and defend the place to the last, if attacked.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SPRINGFIELD, December 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Your dispatch of this date is received and in reply I have the honor to state that nothing further is known of the rebel General Lyon's movements, the operators between here and State line having left for Nashville. Word from Clarksville that the burning of the trestle at Hampton's Station is confirmed. We have 400 effective force at this age, with one section of artillery, and 650 including what we have on the line between Red River and Edgely Junction. We will hold this place at all hazards until further orders. I have communicated to General McCook, at Bowling Green.

Respectfully,

LEXINGTON, December 13, 1864.

Adjt. Gen. L. THOMAS, Louisville, Ky.:

General Burbridg advanced toward Rogersville yesterday; General Stoneman had joined him.

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

PADUCAH, KY., December 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: In reply to your telegram of this date,* I have the honor to state that I have not a sufficient force in my command to assume the offensive and drive the enemy from Davyville bridge, on the Tennessee River. My command at Paducah consists of Thirty-fourth New Jersey Volunteers, 16 officers and 465 men; Eighth U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, 26 officers and 661 men; Seventh Tennessee, and Third Illinois Cavalry, 171 men. After furnishing the requisite details I have about 900 men left. My force at Columbus, Ky., consists of Fourth U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, 22 officers and 635 men, which force is wholly inadequate for the defense of this district. Had I a sufficient number of troops I could drive Lyon out of Tennessee; but, situated as I am at present, it is impossible for me to move from any of my posts, my force being so small. I am perfectly satisfied that the report of 1,000 men being at Davyville bridge constructing boats was correct at the time reported. I will start a gun boat immediately up the river on a reconnaissance and will report the result. I will make application to Major-General Dodge for reinforcements, and if I can obtain them will assume the offensive at once.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

PADUCAH, KY., December 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: I have not 900 effective men in my district after making the requisite details. I telegraphed to Major-General Dodge for more troops. He has none to give me; he has forwarded them to Nashville. He states that Colonel Denton's cavalry brigade is now at Cairo and four regiments of infantry. If you telegraph orders to me to stop a sufficient force, I will take the field in person and attack Lyon in the rear. Please answer.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 13, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH, Paducah:

You can make use of the four infantry regiments now at Cairo en route to Nashville for the expedition to Davyville bridge, after which they will return to Paducah and come to this place by the first opportunity.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

* See 12th (received 12th), p. 166.

PADUCAH, KY., *December 13, 1864—2 p. m.*

Adj. Gen. G. M. DODGE:

GENERAL: I have just received a telegram from General Thomas, at Nashville, ordering me, if I had sufficient force, to move upon Lyon at Danville bridge, where he was constructing boats on the 8th instant. I respectfully request that you send me two or three regiments of infantry and some cavalry and artillery, so that I may comply with his order and enable me to drive Lyon from Danville, which force you can withdraw from this point as soon as this object is accomplished, as, inasmuch as I am at present, it is impossible for me to move from my post in my district, as I cannot muster 1,000 effective men after rushing the requisite details. Please answer.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

SAINT LOUIS, *December 13, 1864—3.20 p. m.*

Brigadier-General MEREDITH,

Paducah, Ky.:

I have no troops; have just sent the best to Thomas. Colonel Benson's cavalry brigade are now on their way to Thomas, now at Cadiz & Smithland, and four regiments of infantry leaving here for him via Paducah, the best in the department.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., *December 13, 1864.*

Capt. E. B. HARLAN,

Louisville, Ky.:

Following dispatch just received from Colonel Johnson, commanding at Russellville:

Twelve hundred rebels entered Hopkinsville at 3 o'clock yesterday. If you can find me 300 mounted men, I will meet them across the river.

S. P. LOVE,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., *December 13, 1864.*

Capt. E. B. HARLAN,

Louisville, Ky.:

General McCook just received orders to go for General Lyon. He will drive him out of the State, or follow till he gets a fight out of him.

S. P. LOVE,
Colonel, Commanding, &c.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., *December 13, 1864.*

Capt. E. B. HARLAN,

Louisville, Ky.:

General McCook telegraphs me he will start re-enforcements to Col. Johnson at daylight to-morrow. In the meantime, send a courier and out state of affairs.

S. P. LOVE,
Colonel, Commanding

BOWLING GREEN, KY., *December 13, 1864.*

Capt. E. B. HARLAN,
Louisville, Ky.:

Colonel Johnson, at Russellville, says the rebels are advancing on that place. They are at Elkton, 1,500 or 2,000 strong. His men are now fighting with the enemy's advance. He calls upon me for reinforcements of men and artillery. I have none. What shall I do? I have ordered him to hold the place as long as he can, and communicate with General McCook, at Franklin, Ky., who has 2,500 cavalry and a battery. Give me instructions at once.

S. P. LOVE,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *December 13, 1864.*

Col. S. P. LOVE,
Bowling Green, Ky.:

If Johnson can hold out until re-enforced by McCook, let him do so; if in danger of capture, however, let him fall back on Bowling Green. By command of Brig. Gen. Hugh Ewing:

E. B. HARLAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 14, 1864—12.30 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville:

It has been seriously apprehended that while Hood, with a part of his forces, held you in check near Nashville, he would have time to operate against other important points left only partially protected. Hence, General Grant was anxious that you should attack the rebel force in your front, and expressed great dissatisfaction that his orders had not been carried out. Moreover, so long as Hood occupies a threatening position in Tennessee, General Cady is obliged to keep large forces upon the Mississippi River, to protect its navigation and to hold Memphis, Vicksburg, &c., although General Grant had directed a part of these forces to cooperate with General Sherman. Every day's delay on your part, therefore, seriously interferes with General Grant's plans.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 14, 1864—8 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Your telegram of 12.30 p. m. to-day is received. The ice having melted away to-day, the enemy will be attacked to-morrow morning. As I regret the apparent delay in attacking the enemy, it could have been done before with any reasonable hope of success.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 14, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Admiral S. P. LEE,
Clarksville:

Your two telegrams of 4.30 p. m. and 8.30 p. m. yesterday are received. have no doubt that the presence of your iron-clad at Clarksville prevented Lyon from moving up opposite that place and destroying the transports. General Meredith telegraphed me of the reconnaissance of our gun boat up the Tennessee River. As I hear from all directions that you has gone to Hopkinsville, I think the transports now at Clarksville could be conveyed down the river with perfect safety. Although not so stated in your dispatch, I infer from what you have said that your means of crossing the Cumberland have either been taken possession of or destroyed, and as I have a force after Lyon I have great hopes of capturing him.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 14, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

I am ready to give convoy down. Please say if convoy is required, when, whether of freight or troops.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 14, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Yours received since nine of 11 a. m. Yesterday Lieutenant Nade saw a burnt wreck of four steamboats near Cumberland City, and captured one large barge on right bank there. Lyon has no visible means of recrossing. I cannot pronounce transports perfectly safe on a long, crooked, and narrow river, with high banks and hills, where a mounted enemy with artillery occupying the country is ready to attack you suddenly in different localities. Our rifle-proof river steam gunboats can generally protect transports, but there is unavoidable risk in cases in such convoys, especially to troops and cavalry, which ought not to be encumbered unnecessarily by the transports. The best plan is to capture the batteries, and I am glad to hear you have the means of preventing Lyon's stay or escape inland. Quartermaster here will be ready until to-morrow afternoon.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

NASHVILLE, December 14, 1864—

Admiral S. P. LEE,
Clarksville:

Your dispatches of 11 a. m. and 1.30 p. m. are received. I am of opinion that it would be best for the transports now at Clarksville to go down the river as soon as unloaded. Perhaps it would be well not to bring up any convoy from Smithland for the present, but let all

transports remain there until Lyon is disposed of and the river is safe. I shall be obliged to you if you will continue to have the river constantly patrolled and report to me any movements discovered.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieut. Commander LE ROY FRENCH,

Commanding Tenth District, Mississippi Squadron.

SIR: I have the honor, by direction of the major-general commanding, to inform you that the enemy will be attacked at an early hour in the morning. If you can drop down the river and engage their batteries on the river bank, it will be excellent co-operation, for which the major-general commanding will be much obliged. It is very probable that these river batteries of the enemy will be attacked in rear by our forces, and it is very desirable and necessary that your fire does not injure the attacking force, and to this end it is advisable you should be informed of the proposed attack.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAINT LOUIS, December 11, 1864—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Nashville, Tenn.:

We have been blocked here three days by ice. Hope to get over to-day, and have directed three regiments of infantry ordered to you to go to Paducah.

G. M. DODGE,

Major-General.

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. M. DODGE,

Saint Louis, Mo.:

Your dispatch of 2 p. m. this day is received. Hope you will be able to get the three regiments of infantry off soon for Paducah.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CHATTANOOGA, December 11, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Is there any means by which I can get a detachment of the Signal Corps to Murfreesborough from La Vergue? I can communicate with the state-house in Nashville, if it is possible to get there.

Respectfully,

J. L. HOLLOPETER,

First Lieut., Acting Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the Cumberland.

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861—8 p. m.

Lieut. J. L. HOLLOPETER,

Actg. Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the Cumberland, Chattanooga.

There is no way by which you can get a signal party to Murfreesborough at present.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861—10.20 p. m.

General THOMAS:

The train which left Gallatin for north at 8 this evening has returned to that place, and reports Lyon's men at the tunnel destroying the railroad, having driven our guard away. The telegraph line stopped working north of Gallatin at about 5 this p. m.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 11, 1861—11 p. m.

Respectfully referred to Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, with directions to instruct the officer in command of the cavalry detachment at and near Gallatin to collect as many of his men together as possible and ascertain the truth of the within report and all the facts in the case.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861—11 p. m.

General THOMAS:

The line between Clarksville and Bowling Green is also cut, which severs connection with Louisville entirely for to-day. I will endeavor to have the Clarksville route reestablished in the morning. Nothing further from tunnel.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 312. HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1861.

As soon as the weather will admit of offensive operations the troops will move against the enemy's position in the following order:

First. Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Detachment of the Army of the Tennessee, after forming his troops on and near the Hard in front of his present position, will make a vigorous assault enemy's left.

Second. Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson, commanding the Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, with three divisions, will move on and support General Smith's right, assist as far as possible in carrying the left of the enemy's position, and be in readiness to throw his force

upon the enemy the moment a favorable opportunity occurs. Major-General Wilson will also send one division on the Charlotte pike to clear that road of the enemy and observe in the direction of Bell's landing, to protect our right rear until the enemy's position is fairly turned, when it will join the main force.

Third, Brig. Gen. Th. J. Wood, commanding Fourth Army Corps, after leaving a strong skirmish line in his works from Laurens' Hill to his extreme right, will form the remainder of the Fourth Corps on the Hillsborough pike to support General Smith's left and operate on the left and rear of the enemy's advanced position on the Montgomery Hill.

Fourth, Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield, commanding Twenty-third Army Corps, will replace Brigadier-General Kimball's division, of the Fourth Corps, with his troops, and occupy the trenches from Fort Negley to Laurens' Hill with a strong skirmish line. He will mass the remainder of his force in front of the works and co-operate with General Wood, protecting the latter's left flank against an attack by the enemy.

Fifth, Maj. Gen. James H. Steelman, commanding District of the Etowah, will occupy the interior line in rear of his present position, stretching from the reservoir on the Cumberland River to Fort Negley, with a strong skirmish line, and mass the remainder of his force in his present position, to act according to the exigencies of the service during these operations.

Sixth, Brig. Gen. J. F. Miller, with the troops forming the garrison of Nashville, will occupy the interior line from the battery on Hill 210 to the extreme right, including the inclosed work on the Hyde's Ferry road.

Seventh, The quartermaster's troops, under command of Hvt. Brig. Gen. J. L. Donaldson, will, if necessary, be posted on the interior line from Fort Morton to the battery on Hill 210.

The troops occupying the interior line will be under the direction of Major-General Steelman, who is charged with the immediate defense of Nashville during the operations around the city.

Should the weather permit the troops will be formed in time to commence operations at 6 a. m., or as soon thereafter as practicable.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 15 [14?], 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: A close examination and study of the enemy's position in front of the Fourth Corps during the past two days has led me to the conclusion that his line is continuous to the point we observed the day before yesterday in front of the hills near to General Smith's left. This opinion is sustained by Colonel Opdycke, who has spent much time under my orders in studying the enemy's front. If my conclusion in this respect be correct, I respectfully submit that it may be necessary to make some modifications of our plans with regard to the proposed attack on the enemy's lines; and with a view to a more full understanding of the necessary modifications, I would most respectfully sug-

est that a meeting of Generals Schofield, Smith, Wilson, and myself be ordered at your headquarters at such time as may suit your convenience. I make this suggestion at the instance of Generals Schofield and Smith, both of whom came to see me to-day. When we strike we must win.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant and friend,

TH. J. WOOD,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 14, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you make our preparations for a move as per previous arrangements. It is the desire of the major-general commanding to see you at his room this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Wood, Smith, Steedman, and Wilson.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 14, 1864.

Orders of the day for Fourth Army Corps for to-morrow, December 15, 1864:

I. Reveille will be sounded at 4 a. m. The troops will get their breakfast, break up their camps, pack up everything, and be prepared to move at 6 a. m.

II. Brigadier-General Elliott, commanding Second Division, will move out by his right, taking the small road which passes by the right of his present position, form in echelon with General A. J. Smith's division, slightly refusing his own left, and, maintaining this relative position to General Smith's troops, will advance with them. When he moves out he will leave a strong line of skirmishers in his solid works.

III. Brigadier-General Kimball, commanding First Division, on being relieved by General Steedman, will move his division to the Hillsborough pike, inside of our lines, and by it through the lines, and form in echelon to General Elliott's left, slightly refusing his own left. He will maintain this position and advance with General Elliott.

IV. As soon as General Kimball's division has passed out of the works by the Hillsborough pike, General Beatty, commanding Third Division, will take up the movement, drawing out by his left, and will form in echelon to General Kimball's left. He will maintain this position and advance with General Kimball. He will also leave a strong line of skirmishers behind the solid works along his present position.

V. The pickets on post, being strengthened when in the judgment of division commanders it becomes necessary, will advance as a line of skirmishers to cover the movement. The formation of the troops will be in two lines—the first line deployed, the second line in close column divisions, massed opposite the intervals in the front line. Each division

ion commander will, so far as possible, hold one brigade in reserve. Five wagon-loads of ammunition, ten ambulances, and the wagons loaded with intrenching tools, will, as nearly as possible, follow immediately after each division; all remaining ammunition wagons, ambulances, and all other wagons, will remain inside of our present lines until further orders. One rifle battery will accompany the Second Division, and one battery of light 12-pounders will accompany each of the remaining divisions. The rest of the artillery of the corps will maintain its present position in the lines.

By command of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,

December 11, 1861.

Capt. R. H. RAMBEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

I will be ready to move as directed by the major-general commanding, and will call at the headquarters at 3 p. m.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,

Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1861.

Lieut. A. W. BECHTLE,

Ambulance Corps:

LIEUTENANT: The command is ordered to move in the morning at 6 o'clock, and all trains are ordered to be parked until further orders in the vicinity of the Hillsborough pike, but the ambulances and ordnance trains will be parked so that they can move out first. Care will be taken not to obstruct the roads from left to right, as General Steedman's command will be moving in that direction about daylight.

By command of Brigadier-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, 1 HQRS. THIRD DIV., 23d ARMY CORPS,

No. 141. 1 *Nashville, Tenn., December 14, 1861.*

* * * * *

IV. All the tents will be struck and the troops of this command be moved back from the trenches far enough to cover them from the enemy's view by 6 a. m. to-morrow. Brigade commanders will select positions for thus massing their troops with a view of moving them under cover to the right of the Fourth Corps, but will make no further movement until further orders. The picket line will be relieved and new picket-line established as usual. The artillery will be parked to the right and rear of Fort Morton by the hour above named. Baggage wagons will be parked, under the direction of the division quartermaster, in the vicinity of the Hillsborough pike and await further orders.

ambulances and ordnance trains will park in the same vicinity, but be prepared to take the road first. Care will be taken not to obstruct the passage from left to right, as troops of General Steedman's command will be moving in that direction at or before daylight through the woods of this command, to relieve a portion of the Fourth Corps.

This order does not affect the One hundred and seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which will remain in the fort, as now.

V. Col. C. C. Doolittle, chief of staff, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, during the temporary absence of Brigadier-General Reilly.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox:

THO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
December 11, 1861.

Brig. Gen. W. D. Whipple,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

Everything unchanged in my front. The rebels opened a battery, in front, of two guns, on a foraging party for hay, in front of my center, yesterday afternoon, but did no damage. They seem to be in more force on my right, but no material change.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
December 11, 1861.

Brig. Gen. G. H. Thomas:

I will see you at 3 p. m., as desired, and will then answer your questions.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. McArthur,

Commanding First Division:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that he wishes men to be supplied with three days' rations in haversacks to night (include the 17th instant). In moving out to-morrow the ambulances and artillery only will move with the command. Camp and garrison baggage and baggage will be packed up and loaded ready to move on sent for. The command must be in readiness to move at 6 a. m. Men will be waked up at 4 a. m. to-morrow morning without reveille. Reveille will be beaten in each regiment at camp at 5 a. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. ROUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Garrard and Moore.)

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, December 11, 1864—11:40 p. m.

Captain RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The two telegrams* from Gallatin are received, but as the second is strongly confirmatory of the first, and there seems to be no doubt of the presence of the enemy on the road, I hesitate to collect the Fourth Ohio and the squadron at Gallatin unless the major-general commanding still wishes it. It seems to me the force under General McCook must be able to drive off Lyon, and that he will be after him before the troops scattered between here and Gallatin can do any good. Be good enough to inform me by return messenger whether I shall send any orders to the latter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, December 11, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Major-General Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps.

The major-general commanding is of the opinion that the force alluded to as on the railroad is not Lyon at all, but a party of guerrillas, which can be driven off by the squadron of cavalry now at Gallatin, with the troops ordered to be sent from Gallatin.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1864—12 m.
COMMANDING OFFICER FOURTH OHIO CAVALRY,
Near Gallatin:

You will concentrate all the cavalry you can, and join the infantry force from Gallatin, moving on the enemy who are on this railroad. Use the utmost expedition.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 31 } Nashville, Tenn., December 14, 1864.

The Cavalry Corps will be prepared to move on the enemy to-morrow at 6 a. m., in the following order:

1. The Fifth Division, Brigadier-General Hatch commanding, will debouch from the fortifications at or near the Hardin pike, and move with its right flank on the Hardin pike and its left flank con-

* See Gillilan to Thomas, 10 p. m. and 10:40 p. m., p. 191.
† So in original, but recorded in order book as No. 2.

ecting with the infantry of Major-General Smith. As soon as the rebel advance position is carried by General Smith, and its own front cleared of the enemy, it will swing to the left, endeavoring to envelope and take in reverse the enemy's left flank.

II. Croxton's brigade, of the First Division, will debouch near the Hardin pike by the dirt road between that and the Charlotte pike, and will move with his left flank connecting with Fifth Division and his right following the line of ridge between the Charlotte and Hardin pikes. After clearing the Hardin pike of any enemy that may be upon it, and crossing Richland Creek, it will conform in its movements to that of the Fifth Division.

III. The Sixth Division, Brigadier-General Johnson commanding, will move by the Charlotte pike, and clear that road of the enemy, pushing as far as Davidson's house, covering the right and rear of the entire movement from the enemy's left, communication being kept up with General Croxton by patrols or skirmishers, as may be found most convenient. The guns of the enemy on the river at Bell's Landing and the ones with them should be captured.

IV. The Seventh Division, Brigadier-General Kuiper commanding, will be held in reserve between the Charlotte and Hardin pikes, ready to move in any direction that the exigencies of the action may demand. It will not debouch from the fortifications till they have been cleared and the success of the general movement determined.

V. The object of the entire operations of the cavalry is to clear the enemy from its immediate front, cover the right of the infantry, envelope the enemy's left flank, and, if possible, reach the Franklin pike somewhere in the vicinity of Brentwood. The greatest celerity of movement is therefore necessary. No wheels will accompany the troops except the artillery. As much forage should be carried on the horses as practicable and three days' rations for the men.

VI. The supply trains will move with the general trains of the army.

VII. Corps headquarters will be on the Hardin pike until the success of the movement is fully known, after which they will be with the Fifth Division.

By order of Brevet Major General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS,

No. 8.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 14, 1864.

Until further orders the following named officers will constitute the staff of the brevet major general commanding; they will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Lieut. Col. A. J. Alexander, assistant adjutant-general, acting chief of staff; Maj. E. B. Beaumont, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. J. M. Young, Fifth Iowa Cavalry, provost-marshal; Maj. Francis Salter, U. S. Volunteers, medical director; Maj. William F. Cady, U. S. Volunteers, medical inspector; Capt. Levi T. Griffin, Fourth Michigan Cavalry, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. J. N. Andrews, aide-de-camp; Capt. G. H. Kuecland, Fourth Indiana Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. W. W. Van Antwerp, Fourth Michigan Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. M. M. Pool, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. E. B. Carling, chief quartermaster; Capt. C. Read, commissary of subsistence; Capt. L. M. Hosen, Sixteenth

U. S. Infantry, commissary of musters; Lieut. H. E. Noyes, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. Joseph A. Goddard, Fourth Ohio Cavalry, acting assistant quartermaster.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. H. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HQRS. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Nashville, Tenn., December 14, 1864.

Commanders of divisions and detached brigades are requested to report at these headquarters (No. 24 High street) at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HQRS. FIFTH DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 7. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 14, 1864.

I. This command will be ready to move at daylight to-morrow morning, with one day's rations and 100 rounds of ammunition in cartridge-box and on person.

II. The brigades will move in columns of regiments, with space between regiments sufficient to deploy in line dismounted, with the exception of one regiment mounted in column in rear of each brigade. The led horses will follow the brigades at a distance of 500 to 1,000 yards.

III. The left of the Second Brigade will move on the right of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith's corps, conforming to the movements of the infantry line; the First Brigade on the right of the Second, conforming to the movements of the Second Brigade.

IV. Battery I, First Illinois Light Artillery, will move, where the road will allow it, on the left and rear of the Second Brigade. The Second Brigade will support the battery.

V. Brigade commanders will attack vigorously and push the enemy home wherever the attack commences, being on opportunity for throwing their mounted regiments in on the charge wherever the opportunity offers.

VI. It being impossible to issue rations to-night, two days' rations will be loaded into wagons, and remain in camp ready to move at a moment's notice.

By order of Brig. Gen. Edward Hatch:

HERVEY A. COLVIN,
Adjutant Twelfth Tennessee Cavalry and Arty. Asst. Adj. Gen.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 14, 1864.
Brigadier-General UPTON,
Cairo, Ill.:

By direction of brevet major-general commanding, I have the honor to report the following regiments as belonging to the Fourth Division:

nth Missouri Cavalry, Third Iowa Cavalry, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, cond New Jersey Cavalry, Seventh Indiana Cavalry, Sixth Tennessee Cavalry, Nineteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEVI T. GRIFFIN,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 11, 1861.
 ig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed to inform you that Commodore Fitch will go down in the morning and open on the rebel battery at Bell's Landing. This battery is opposite and near Davidson's house, as was supposed, and the general commanding thinks by moving with rapidity I can capture it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

GALLATIN, December 11, 1861—10 p. m.
 J. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:
 The captain in charge of a party of Fourth Tennessee Cavalry sent the river this morning has just reported that he met two of our men, who told him that a force of rebels, with artillery, is opposite Carter's Point, about twelve miles above here, and they will probably attempt to cross.

JAMES GILFILLAN,
Colonel Eleventh Minnesota Infantry.

GALLATIN, December 11, 1861—10.40 p. m.
 Major-General THOMAS:
 Captain Buck, of my regiment, stationed at Buck Lodge, on the railroad, ten miles above here, reports that a force of about 200 rebel cavalry were, about 8 o'clock this evening, at Fountain Head, one mile and all above his station, tearing up the track and destroying the telegraph.

JAS. GILFILLAN,
Colonel Eleventh Minnesota Infantry, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861—11 p. m.
JAMES GILFILLAN,
Gallatin:

What is the real state of affairs at the tunnel? It is reported Lyon is the road breaking it up. Send as full and accurate report as you obtain at once.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 14, 1864—11.10 p. m.

Col. JAMES GILFILLAN,
Eleventh Minnesota Infantry, Gallatin:

Your dispatch of this evening just received. Re-enforce the guard at the tunnel at once and hold that place. Have the squadron of cavalry collected together and sent to the threatened point as soon as possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

GALLATIN, December 14, 1864—12 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding:

Have nothing further from the tunnel. Captain Buck sent a man through with a message to the effect that upon learning the presence of the enemy, he sent out a party, who ascertained that they numbered about 200 and that they were destroying the road. Whose command they were of he did not learn. The trains going up have been turned back. Am sending up all my disposable infantry force.

JAMES GILFILLAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

BETHLEHEM, December 14, 1864.

Captain FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Scouts that came in to night report a company of forty rebels twelve miles from this place, on the south side of the river. They claim to be an independent organization, and are scouting the country. The defense of this place will require considerable labor to put them in defensible condition, and an additional force of from 300 to 500 would be desirable for the purpose of fatigue and garrison duty.

M. C. TAYLOR,
Colonel, Commanding.

FARMER, KY., December 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Lyon took possession of Princeton, Ky., last night, plundered the place, and conscripted all he could, and is reported to be moving Eddyville, Ky. This news is received from a resident of Princeton that escaped and has just arrived at Smithland. The four regiments of infantry have not arrived yet. Could I have the cavalry when it arrive, which would enable me to pursue him? Please answer.

A. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General

NASHVILLE, December 11, 1861—8 p. m.
(Received 17th.)

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH,
Paducah:

Your dispatch of this date is received. I have a force of cavalry in pursuit of Lyon sufficient to destroy or capture his command, and I have only to desire you to make use of the three regiments infantry ordered to report to you in driving away the enemy's force working at Danville bridge, on the Tennessee River, and destroy their works, if possible; the regiments will then return to Paducah and come on to this place the first opportunity.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

PADUCAH, KY., December 11, 1861.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Clarksville, Tenn.:

ADMIRAL: Can you inform me about the movement of Lyon; has he crossed the river yet? Please answer.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

PADUCAH, KY., December 11, 1861.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Clarksville, Tenn.:

ADMIRAL: Please allow Captain Smith and gun-boat Peosta to remain here. I would like to send him up the river on a reconnaissance. I am about to take the field against Lyon at Danville, and want to find out all particulars about his movements.

Respectfully,

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

CLARKSVILLE, December 11, 1861—6.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH:

Your two telegrams of this date just received. Lyon understood to be at Hopkinsville. Have no knowledge that he has recrossed the river. I now telegraph gun-boat Peosta to make the reconnaissance you wish, as far as practicable, though she is wanted to convoy on the Cumberland. Captain Smith will always comply with your request when not incompatible with the duty assigned him by myself or his division officers.

S. P. LEE,
Rear-Admiral, Commanding.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., *December 11, 1864.*

Capt. E. B. HARRIS,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Louisville, Ky.:

Colonel Johnson reports all quiet at Russellville. Rebel's main force at Fairview, Christian County, Ky. Citizens report that Lyon is conscripting all the men he can get and taking all the houses and supplies that he can find.

S. P. LOVE,

Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade,

LOUISVILLE, *December 11, 1864.*

Major-General THOMAS,

Commanding Army of the Cumberland:

SIR: In accordance with instructions of Special Orders, No. 313,* headquarters Department of the Missouri, signed Major-General Dodge, I have the honor to report my command, the Forty-seventh Regiment Illinois Infantry Volunteers, 2,200 strong, but 125 of which are armed, at this post, subject to your instructions.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD BOSHAM,

First Lieutenant, Commanding Regiment.

NASHVILLE, *December 12, 1864—8 p. m.*

First Lieut. EDWARD BOSHAM,

Comdy. Forty-seventh Regt. Illinois Vols., Louisville, Ky.:

Report your command to General Ewing, at Louisville, for temporary assignment to duty at Bowling Green, for the protection of the bridge. Draw arms for the unarmed portion of the regiment at Louisville.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 13, 1864—9 p. m.*
(Received 11.25 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

Washington, D. C.:

I attacked the enemy's left this morning and drove it from the river below the city, very nearly to the Franklin pike, a distance about eight miles. Have captured General Chalmers' headquarters and train, and a second train of about 20 wagons, with between 800 and 1,000 prisoners and 10 pieces of artillery. The troops behaved splendidly, all taking their share in assaulting and carrying the enemy's breast-works. I shall attack the enemy again to-morrow, if he stands to fight, and, if he retreats during the night, will pursue him, throwing a heavy cavalry force in his rear, to destroy his trains, if possible.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

* See Vol. XLI, Part IV, p. 239.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 15, 1861—12 midnight.
(Sent 12.05 a. m. 16th.)

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville:

I rejoice in tendering to you and the gallant officers and soldiers of your command the thanks of this Department for the brilliant achievements of this day, and hope that it is the harbinger of a decisive victory, that will crown you and your army with honor and do much toward closing the war. We shall give you a hundred guns in the morning.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1861—11.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

I was just on my way to Nashville, but receiving a dispatch from Van Duzer, detailing your splendid success of to-day, I shall go no further. Push the enemy now, and give him no rest until he is entirely destroyed. Your army will cheerfully suffer many privations to break up Hood's army and render it useless for future operations. Do not stop for trains or supplies, but take them from the country, as the enemy have done. Much is now expected.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1861—11.15 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

Your dispatch of this evening just received.* I congratulate you and the army under your command for to-day's operations, and feel a conviction that to-morrow will add more fruits to your victory.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, December 15, 1861—11.50 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS,
City Point, Va.:

I send you dispatch just received from Nashville.* I shall not now go there. Will remain absent, however, until about Monday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 15, 1861.

Mrs. F. L. THOMAS,
New York Hotel, New York:

We have whipped the enemy, taken many prisoners and considerable artillery.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

* See Thomas to Halleck, 2 p. m., p. 194.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 15, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

(Received 11 p. m.)

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

Our line advanced and engaged the rebel line at 9 this a. m. The line was formed thus: Steedman on the left; T. J. Wood, with the Fourth Corps, next; A. J. Smith next; with Cox, in reserve, next; and the cavalry, under Wilson, fighting dismounted, occupying the extreme right, aided by gun-boats on the river. The artillery practice has been fine, and at times the musketry firing continuous and heavy, and, though the casualties have been light, the results are very fair. The left occupies the same ground as at morning, but right has advanced five miles, driving enemy from river, from his intrenchments, from the range of hills on which his left rested, and forced back upon his right and center. His center pushed back from one to three miles, with loss, in all, of 17 guns and about 1,500 prisoners, and his whole line of earth works, except about a mile on his extreme right, where no serious attempt was made to dislodge him. From our new line General Thomas expects to be able to drive the enemy at daylight east of the road to Franklin, and so open communication with our forces at Murfreesborough. The whole of Hood's army is here, except the cavalry and one division, which has been detached to threaten or attack Murfreesborough. The whole action of today was splendidly successful. The divisions commanded by General Kimball, of the Fourth Corps, by General Charrard, of the command under General A. J. Smith, and the cavalry division under General Knipe, were under my observation, and I have never seen better work. General Kimball's division carried two fortified positions by assault, with very slight loss, capturing at one point 400 prisoners and 6 guns. No doubt the other parts of the line did as well; I only speak of what I saw.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

CLARKSVILLE, *December 15, 1864.*

General THOMAS:

I sent two gun-boats at 4 o'clock this morning, accompanied by an army transport, and twenty men furnished by Colonel Smith, which destroyed about twenty of Lyon's canoes and skiffs, and brought away two artillery barges, found near Cumberland and in the creeks. None of burnt transports interfere with channel.

S. P. LEE,

*Acting Rear-Admiral, &c.*CLARKSVILLE, *December 15, 1864—5.30 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS:

Telegram just received from commanding officer Black Hawk, at Smithland, reports force of 800 rebels, with two guns, at Eddyville. Three gun-boats conveying transports from here had got off before it was received here. I have ordered an iron-clad and heavy gun boats, just arrived at Mound City, from there to Eddyville, thence as far up as stage of water will allow.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 15, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Commanding officer of Black Hawk telegraphs that transport Naugatuck was fired into by artillery and infantry at Kelly's crossing, twelve miles below Eddyville, by Lyon's force, and that our scouts report eight guns at Kelly's crossing.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

GENERAL THOMAS' HEADQUARTERS,

December 15, 1864.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,

Clarksville:

Your two dispatches received. We have turned the enemy's left; carried three or four redoubts and enemy's main line; captured 1,000 prisoners, 16 pieces of artillery, and 14 wagons—Chalmers' headquarters train. Our loss probably 500 killed and wounded.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

CLARKSVILLE, December 15, 1864—10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

Please accept my hearty thanks for your telegram informing me of General Thomas' important success, and make my warm congratulations to the general.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

U. S. STEAMER MOORE,

Robinson's Island, Cumberland River, December 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff, Army of the Cumberland.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of this date, and am happy to state in reply that things here are working well. Our forces have captured the guns in the upper rebel battery on the river. There was another battery back from the river near the landing; I think the forces on shore and the Monitor silenced it, as we did not hear from it after dark. At dark I withdrew my boats, fearing they might by accident fire into our own men. I am just above the batteries to night; will move at early daylight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LE ROY FITCH,

Lieut. Commander, Comdy. Tenth District, Mississippi Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

December 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD:

I will move out and form, my left resting on your right.

A. J. SMITH,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 15, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

GENERAL: We assaulted a strong wooded hill on which the enemy's main line of works is. At 4.35 Kimbrell's division took the hill and works by assault. We have captured two brass pieces.

WILLIAM J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 15, 1864—11.40 p. m.

General THOMAS, or
General WOOD:

General Grant has just ridden along and in front of the picket-line of my own and Heatty's division, and reports that there is nothing in front of my left for half a mile nor in front of the center of the Third for three quarters of a mile. The enemy have, he thinks, more fire than usual, and they were in motion. He could not tell what they were doing.

NATHAN KIMBRELL,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 15, 1864—11.20 p. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Army Corps for to-morrow, December 16, 1864:

If the enemy is in their front at daylight to-morrow morning division commanders will advance at that time, attack, and carry whatever may be before them. If the enemy retreats to night we will follow them. General Elliott, commanding Second Division, will cross to the east of the Franklin pike, then move southward parallel to it. He will deploy two regiments, connect with skirmishers, and the rest of his division will move by flank. General Kimball will follow, then General Heatty. The batteries attached to each division to-day will accompany them to-morrow. Ten ambulances and five ammunition wagons will follow each division.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. M. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 15, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

I am ready to move. Shall I attack the enemy's right, or await your orders? My reserves are now in the inner line.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
December 15, 1864.

Major-General STEEDMAN:

Do you observe any movements of the enemy? Have you any news? Wood has carried the hill at Montgomery's house in fine style.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding.

STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 15, 1861—2.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,
Commanding:

I have been unable to discover any movements of the enemy since about 10 o'clock, when he moved what appeared 2,000 troops in rear of his line to our right. I pressed his right strongly, getting possession of the works constructed by my troops. I found him in strong force, with artillery in position. I retired my left, but still hold the works in my front on the right of the railroad. Hope all will go well.

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 15, 1861—7.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

That part of my command used against the enemy to-day now occupy the works on right of railroad, made by my command, and nearly all the works on left of railroad, except one square fort built by enemy, which I completely command by occupying the building of Mr. Rains, which is loopholed. My advance posts report considerable force assembled on my front to night. My loss is nearly 250.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL THOMAS' HEADQUARTERS,
December 15, 1861.

Major-General STEEDMAN:

Yours received. Keep a good lookout for the enemy in the morning. Position at dark: Two divisions Fourth Army Corps, Twenty-third Army Corps, General A. J. Smith's troops, and Hatch's cavalry to left and rear of enemy, from Granny White pike to Brentwood range of hills. We hold rebel main line; have captured a thousand prisoners, 10 pieces of artillery, 11 wagons, Chalmers' headquarters train.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 15, 1861.

Maj. S. B. MOE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy seem to be massing a force about three-quarters of a mile on my right in the woods. They can be entailed by the guns of Fort Negley. I think a strong skirmish line should be kept on the right and left of the Nolensville pike to watch their movements.

Respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. R. THOMPSON,
Colonel, Commanding. &c.

200 KY., SW. VA., TENN., MISS., ALA., AND N. GA. [CHAP. LVII.]

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have driven in the enemy's skirmish line, after a sharp skirmish, and am advancing rapidly.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 15, 1864—12.20 p. m.

General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. The general commanding desires you to secure General Smith's right well by a strong body of cavalry, and then crowd the enemy as much as possible. Send word to General Johnson to guard our right rear well.

Very respectfully,

HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: General Hatch's left is at Henry Compton's house, between Hardin and Hillsborough pikes. General Hood's headquarters are at John Overton's, on the Franklin pike. General Chalmers' headquarters are at General Hardin's; General Marshall's, at Felix Compton's, between Granny White and Hillsborough pikes. Nothing but cavalry in our front. The infantry were at Felix Compton's house and to the left.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Hardin Pike, Four Miles from Nashville,
December 15, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

A part of Hatch's division has captured a wagon train of 14 wagons and about 20 prisoners. Johnson seems to be getting along well, though the enemy were strongly posted. I have directed Hatch to move by Williams' house, on south side of Richland Creek, toward Hillsborough pike, striking it six or seven miles from the city. Our prisoners are from Chalmers' division, whose headquarters are, or were, at Hardin's house this morning.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 15, 1861—2.05 p. m.

Brevet Major-General WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

If you are able to strike the Hillsborough pike, six or seven miles from the city, you will be able to turn the enemy's left completely, and, to insure that as much as possible, I have directed General Schofield to put his corps on the right of General Smith's command. Wood connects with General Smith's left, and still has a considerable force in reserve. If the Hillsborough pike can be opened, we can strike the enemy a severe blow. I am very much gratified with the success all along the line. Push as far as you can, and get possession of the Hillsborough pike, if possible, but do not run the risk of an attack in flank in the morning.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

I can see a huge wagon train of the enemy's moving to their right. If you can get possession of it at Brentwood to-morrow you will do a good thing.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

BRAGG SIGNAL STATION, December 15, 1861.

General WILSON:

The infantry is driving the rebels on the left. If you need infantry I can send some. Wood has possession of the Montgomery house. I believe Johnson has carried the battery on the Charlotte pike; I have seen troops leaving there.

THOMAS.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Compton's House, December 15, 1861—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you, for the information of the major-general commanding, that General Hatch has just reported that he captured to-day 2 rebels and 14 guns and 300 or 400 prisoners. He also reports that he compelled the enemy to abandon a large number of small arms, which are now lying on the ground. He also captured about 40 wagons, principally ammunition wagons, and about 80 beef-cattle. General Hatch says the enemy were very much demoralized, and that he drove them from the large hill they occupied when the major-general commanding left the ground.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HQDQ. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Compton's House, December 13, 1861—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant General:

GENERAL: Pickens has just taken note that Forrest, with three divisions of cavalry and Cheatham's division of infantry, was at Murfreesborough. Chalmers' division of cavalry and one brigade of infantry were on the extreme right. I will endeavor to dispose of them to-morrow with Johnson's and Croston's forces.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., December 13, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdy. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major general commanding to say to you that you will remain in your present position until it is satisfactorily known whether the enemy will fight or retreat. In case he retreats you will move your command on the Hillsborough pike across the Harpeth, and then take the most direct road or roads to the Franklin pike, and endeavor to capture or destroy the enemy's trains in their rear.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBE. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 13, 1861.*

Brig. Gen. E. M. McCook,

Commanding Division of Cavalry, Knoxville:

(To be forwarded.)

Your requisition for ammunition only reached here this evening. It will be filled and go in the morning. We have driven the enemy from all his positions on our right, captured 10 guns, 1,000 prisoners, General Chalmers' headquarters, a train of 40 wagons, large numbers of small arms, and 80 head cattle. We carried every rebel and we assaulted Push Lyon to the wall.

By command of General Thomas:

HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HQDQ. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Hardin Pike, December 13, 1861—12.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CROSTON,

Commanding First Brigade, First Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major general commanding desires you, should the enemy still remain in the front of General Johnson, to swing in to it

right and try to cut them off. After this is accomplished, or should the enemy have withdrawn, he desires you to push forward rapidly and connect with General Hatch on your left.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Staff.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General CROXTON,
Commanding First Brigade, First Division:

GENERAL: It is not absolutely necessary for you to support General Johnson. Move your command to Williams' farm and join on to General Hatch's right. Everything thus far has and is still going on handsomely. General Thomas expresses himself well satisfied with the result so far. Cross the Hardin and Hillsborough pikes and push along on the right of General Hatch as rapidly as possible.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 15, 1864—5 o'clock.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CROXTON,
Commanding First Brigade, First Division Cavalry:

The general commanding desires you to camp on the Hillsborough side to night at the nearest point to him, and send a staff officer back with the teams to report.

Very respectfully,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Compton's House, December 15, 1864—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CROXTON,
Commanding First Brigade, First Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding desires you to maintain your position on the Hardin pike until morning, and then attack the enemy or drive him off, if possible. If you have not force enough, call on General Johnson for re-enforcements. Victor's brigade of infantry and Chalmers' division of cavalry were all that was on the river, and should be disposed of to-morrow. General Hatch captured 2 redoubts, 13 guns, 300 prisoners, 40 wagons, 30 head of cattle, and a large number of small arms.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, FOURTH DIVISION,
Memphis, Tenn., December 15, 1864.

Lieutenant NOYES,
Second U. S. Cavalry, Nashville, Tenn.:

LIEUTENANT: I had expected to see you before this, but circumstances over which I had no control have detained here this detachment of my command. The day on which Major General Dana arrived here I procured, after much solicitation, an order from Major-General Winshurn for the embarkation of my troops. General Dana, arriving in the evening (7th), countermanded the order. Upon my representing the condition of the command, he said we might embark; meantime one regiment would have been in Cairo. On the 8th Major General Dana said he would telegraph General Hallock, Chief of Staff, that he could not execute orders just received from him, unless the detachments of my command in Missouri were sent here. As he then had his dispatch ready I asked to be allowed to go to Cairo and there see the other portion of my troops, while I would thus be able to learn early what the final disposition would be. General Hallock directed troops in Missouri to proceed to Nashville. I then came here to urge the immediate shipment of these parts of regiments. Major General Dana will not allow them to leave until after the return of an expedition to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, in which we are to take part. I do not know by what authority we are kept, but do know that my whole command is suffering very much by this long continued separation. I sincerely hope Major General Wilson will cause this portion to be brought to Nashville at once. I am powerless here, or anywhere, in this matter but had my efforts here been properly seconded by Brigadier General Grierson, I am perfectly confident that we should now be in Nashville. I am not complaining of General Grierson, or of any one, but I do not hesitate to say that if the affairs and condition of my command could be seen by others as by myself, there would have been a different result. Lieutenant Colonel Bentzen has met with a very serious accident on the March, and I'm afraid some of his command will be delayed by the ice in Mississippi River. I do not know the cause of his delay not having had any communication from him since the 3d instant. I write this communication as a private one, but hold myself ready to be called upon for sustaining every sentence. Will you please have the delay of my command properly understood? Of course I am desirous from any communication direct with Major General Wilson.

Very truly, yours,

E. F. WINSLOW,
Colonel Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Commanding.

P. S.—I take about 1,000 men on the contemplated expedition.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
In the Field, December 15, 1864—4.30 o'clock.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I have taken three more brass rifled guns and four wagons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fifth Division

NEAR NASHVILLE, *December 15, 1861—9.55 a. m.*

BYT. MAJ. GEN. J. H. WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Johnson's forces are not engaged; it is General McArthur, with two brigades of infantry. General J. thinks he can take the position now occupied by the enemy when he is ordered to move, and will try to take the battery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. H. KNEELAND,
Captain and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

SIX MILES FROM NASHVILLE, *December 15, 1861.*

MAJOR-GENERAL WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Johnson's command is now six miles from Nashville on the Charlotte pike. They have pressed the enemy back on what seems to be a strong line, but I think Colonel Harrison will push them out in a short time (as soon as he gets his brigade in position). They did not leave their guns in the position occupied by them this morning hardly long enough for General J. to get them.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. H. KNEELAND,
Captain and Acting Aide de Camp.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 15, 1861—12 m.

BRIG. GEN. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you push forward with the utmost rapidity. Hatch is far in advance, and as you will have so much farther to march it will take the utmost exertion to keep up. The general would like you to communicate frequently with him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

DECEMBER 15, 1861—1 p. m.

GENERAL WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy has been driven from the creek, the hills on south bank occupied, and we are driving them handsomely through the valley beyond. Prisoners taken report Chalmers' division in our front. Our advance is slow, but I think my portion of the line is as far advanced as any portion of the cavalry line at this time. We did not capture the guns for reasons which I can fully explain to you at another time.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 15, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General WILSON,

Commanding Cavalry Corps:

At Widow Bass', one mile from Davidson's. Rebs seem to have turned to left at Davidson's. Will leave pike at that point if rebs have all gone in that direction.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 15, 1864—3.15 p. m.

[General WILSON:]

GENERAL: Dispatch received. We are safe from any attack from our right or rear. My right rests on the river. The rebs have chosen a good position, which was charged by the Seventh Ohio, which met with some loss and accomplished nothing. We leave two rebel guns in a pocket, and hope to secure them. My only concern is with reference to my left. Croxton does not keep up. I will push everything, and hope to come up to your expectation.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

HUGHES CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General JOHNSON,

Commanding Sixth Division Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your dispatch is received. General Hatch has also met and captured Chalmers' command, and captured his headquarters train and some prisoners. Push the enemy as vigorously as possible. Everything is going on handsomely on the left. The very moment you have reached Davidson's house and cleared the country, swing in with your mounted brigade, and as much of the dismounted brigade as possible, toward Brentwood. General Knipe will be placed on Hatch's right, and a strong effort be made for the Hillsborough road Franklin pike, so as to take the enemy in rear, if possible. I have just had a note from General Thomas expressive of great satisfaction of the result so far. General Wood has carried the Montgomery house intrenchments, and still has men to reserve. Communicate with me frequently any information of importance you may obtain, particularly with reference to whatever may indicate a movement against our right and rear. All we want is to feel safe, and then we will push ahead.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HUGHES CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Compton's House, December 15, 1864—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,

Commanding Sixth Division:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that General Hatch capture to-day 2 redoubts, 13 guns, 300 prisoners, 40 wagons, 80 beef-cattle

and a large amount of small arms. The Fifth and Seventh Divisions will move at 3 a. m. to-morrow on Franklin by the Hillsborough pike. Chalmers' division and Ector's brigade of infantry are in your vicinity, and the brevet major-general commanding desires you, in conjunction with General Croston, to attack him early in the morning, say 3 or 4 o'clock, and drive him across the Harpeth River, protecting our right and covering the city. The general desires you to push the enemy with the utmost vigor.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. J. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., December 15, 1861.

Brevet Major-General WILSON:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that a prisoner taken by my command states that General Cheatham has moved to the left, his left resting about half a mile from the junction of this road and the Granny White pike, and further, that their wagon trains are passing back on the Franklin pike.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOSEPH KNIFE,
Brigadier-General.

(Forwarded to Major-General Thomas.)

GALLATIN, *December 15, 1861—1 a. m.*

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding:

Lieutenant-Colonel Hall, whom I sent with reinforcements to the tunnel, reports that Captain Buck went out and drove off the rebels, who appear not to have been so numerous as first supposed. They did but little damage, beyond breaking the telegraph and burning a pile of cordwood. I don't think they are Lyon's men. A Captain Rickman, of Forrest's command, has had for the past two or three weeks some forty or fifty soldiers scattered about through the country north of here, who occasionally get together and make a dash at the road or at a drove of cattle or horses. I think they are the men who made the attack last night. Colonel Hall says that trains can run in the morning.

JAMES GILFILLAN,
Colonel Eleventh Minnesota Infantry.

GALLATIN, *December*

Capt. HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I sent the cavalry back to their original positions this morning.

JAMES GILFILLAN,
Colonel Eleventh Minnesota Infantry.

CLARKSVILLE, *December 15, 1864.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Courier has arrived with countersign and papers. Train left this a. m. with new bridge for Hampton's Station. Lyon still at Hopkinsville.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, *December 15, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. M. BRANNAN,

Chattanooga:

We have turned the enemy's left; carried three or four redoubts and main line; captured 1,000 prisoners, 16 guns, and 11 wagons—Chalmers' headquarters train. Our loss probably 500.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, *December 15, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. M. BRANNAN,

Chattanooga:

Colonel Cotter is on duty here with General Steedman. We carried every point held by the enemy to-day on the right; captured 30 cannon, 40 to 50 wagons, and 1,000 prisoners.

HENRY STONE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

PADUCAH, *December 15, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

GENERAL: The steamer Naugatuck, just arrived at Smithland reports being fired into twelve miles this side of Eddyville, at Kelly's crossing, by artillery and musketry. Lyon is reported to have captured Princeton, Ky., and Eddyville, and commands the river at Kelly's crossing with eight pieces of artillery. The four regiments of infantry have not arrived at Cairo yet.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 15, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH,

Paducah:

Your dispatch of this day is received. I was under the impression that the infantry regiments were already at Cairo. You can only see their arrival at Paducah, when you will make use of them, as heretofore directed.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

PADUCAH, KY., *December 15, 1864.*Capt. J. BATES DICKSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Lexington, Ky.:

CAPTAIN: The steamer Naugatuck, just arrived at Smithland, reports being fired into by artillery and musketry twelve miles this side of Eddyville. Lyon has captured Princeton, Ky., and Eddyville, and commands the river at Kelly's crossing with eight pieces of artillery. I have telegraphed to General Dodge, at Saint Louis, and he has no force to assist me. I have also telegraphed to General Thomas, at Nashville. General Dodge has sent his troops to Nashville. I have no force here to take the field against Lyon, as you know. He has not touched my district yet, but if I had sufficient force I would move against him. If you can possibly render me any assistance to enable me to do so, please answer.

S. MEREDITH,
*Brigadier-General.*SMITHLAND, *December 15, 1864.*Capt. JAMES GRAHAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Captain Lawrence, of the Seventeenth Kentucky Cavalry, has returned; reports going within nine miles of Eddyville, this side of the river. A portion of Lyon's force is across the river. Captain Flee, commanding gun boat at this post, has furnished me with two 12-pounder howitzers and men to work them. I am now taking them to the fort, and, when mounted, I am ready for the enemy, if they are disposed to come. Send Captain Bush, Forty-eighth Kentucky, back, with his arms and ammunition, as soon as possible. Received your dispatch sending re-enforcement.

HENRY P. REED,
*Captain, Commanding Post.*SMITHLAND, *December 15, 1864.*Capt. JAMES GRAHAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The steamer Naugatuck has just arrived. She reports being fired into this a. m., twelve miles this side of Eddyville, at Kelly's Crossing, by artillery and musketry. One shot passed through her smoke stack and one through the pilot house. Lyon is reported to have eight pieces of artillery on the river at that place.

H. P. REED,
Captain, Commanding Post.

[DECEMBER 15, 1864.—For Dodge to Halleck, explaining delay in forwarding troops to Thomas, &c., see Vol. XLI, Part IV, p. 805.]

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SAINT LOUIS, *December 15, 1861.*—10.20 a. m.

Maj. Gen. E. EPTON,
Louisville, Ky.:

A portion of Hentzen's brigade that was caught in the ice below here has been taken off of loads, and is moving by rail to Cairo and Smithland; also those on the boat that blew up. All others have gone.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 16, 1861.*

(Sent 11.25 a. m.)

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

Please accept for yourself, officers, and men the nation's thanks for your good work of yesterday. You made a magnificent beginning. A grand consummation is within your easy reach. Do not let it slip.

A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Eight Miles from Nashville, December 16, 1861.—6 p. m.

(Received Washington 6.30 a. m. 17th.)

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, and
Governor ANDREW JOHNSON, *Nashville:*

This army thanks you for your approbation of its conduct yesterday and to assure you that it is not misplaced. I have the honor to report that the enemy has been pressed at all points to-day on his line of retreat to the Brentwood Hills, and Brigadier-General Hatch, of Wilson's corp of cavalry, on the right, turned the enemy's left, and captured a large number of prisoners, number not yet reported. Major-General Schofield's troops, next on the left of cavalry, carried several heights, captured many prisoners and six pieces of artillery. Next Major-General Smith next on left of Major-General Schofield, carried the salient point of the enemy's line with McMillen's brigade, of McArthur's division, capturing 10 pieces of artillery, 2 brigadier-generals, and about 2,000 prisoners. Brigadier-General Garrard's division, of Smith's command, next on the left of McArthur's division, carried the enemy's intrenchments, capturing all the artillery and troops of the enemy on the line. Brigadier-General Wood's corps, on the Franklin pike, took up the assault, carrying the enemy's intrenchments in his front, captured 4 pieces of artillery something over 600 prisoners, and drove the enemy within 6 miles of the Brentwood Pass. Major-General Steelman, commanding detachments of the different armies of the Military Division of the Mississippi, most nobly supported General Wood's left, and bore a most honorable part in the operations of the day. I have ordered the pursuit to be continued in the morning at daylight, although the troops are very much fatigued. The greatest enthusiasm prevails. I must not forget to report the operations of Brigadier-General Johnson, in successfully driving the enemy, with the co-operation of the gun-boats, and Lieutenant-Commander Pitch, from their established batteries on the

Cumberland River below the city of Nashville, and of the services of Brigadier-General Croxton's brigade, in covering and relieving our right and rear, in the operations of yesterday and to-day. Although I have no report of the number of prisoners captured by Johnson's and Croxton's commands, I know they have made a large number. I am glad to be able to state that the number of prisoners captured yesterday greatly exceeds the number reported by me last evening. The woods, fields, and intrenchments are strewn with the enemy's small-arms, abandoned in their retreat. In conclusion, I am happy to state that all this has been effected with but a very small loss to us. Our loss does not probably exceed 3,000;* very few killed.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

[DECEMBER 16, 1864. For General Thomas' congratulatory orders, see Part I, p. 50.]

CITY POINT, VA., December 16, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

Richmond Dispatch of to-day, after fully confirming the previous reports of the capture of Bristol, states that—

The enemy then advanced up the railroad toward Abingdon, which we presume fell into their hands, though we have no information of the fact. The next we hear of them they had at Buchanan yesterday morning poured down on Glade Spring, a depot on the railroad thirteen miles thence of Abingdon, taking every one there by surprise, and capturing of all the railroad employees, except one, who managed to escape to tell the tale. At last accounts the enemy were pushing up the railroad in the direction of Marion, which is twenty-seven miles on this side of Abingdon. This is a raid in Rockbridge's rear. The raiders, having their base somewhere in the neighborhood of Knoxville, came up the north side of the Holston River, and crossed over to Bristol. It is probable the raiders separated, one party proceeding to Bristol, and the other to Abingdon. If unchecked, it is likely they will come up the railroad even as far as Salem, and thence escape to Kanawha by the route followed by Hooker last summer. It is unknown who is in command of this expedition, but it looks very much like some of Sherman's galloping work. None of the dispatches received say anything about Saltville. If it is unprotected, it has doubtless been visited by the enemy; if, however, there were any troops there, the Yankees were apt to fight shy of it, and confine their operations to the railroad.

THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN.

General Hood's official report of the battle of Franklin has at last been received. It will be seen that our reported extraordinary loss of general officers is but too true. The following is General Hood's dispatch:

“HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
“Six Miles from Nashville, Tenn., December 3, 1864. (Via Mobile 9th.)

“Hon. J. A. SEDGWICK:

“About 4 p. m. November 30 we attacked the enemy at Franklin, and drove them from their center line of temporary works into the inner lines, which they evacuated during the night, leaving their dead and wounded in our possession, and retired to Nashville, closely followed by our cavalry. We captured 7 stand of colors and

*As received in the War Department this read 300, and was so repeated in Stanton's dispatches to Dix and others. Corrected in Stanton to Dix, 10 p. m. 17th, p. 323.

about 1,000 prisoners. Our troops fought with great gallantry. We have to lament the loss of many gallant officers and brave men. Major-General Chiburne, Brigadier-Generals John Adams, Gibb, Strahl, and Granbury were killed; Maj. Gen. John C. Brown and Brigadier-Generals Carter, Manigault, Quarles, Cockrell, and Scott were wounded; Brigadier-General Gordon was captured.

"J. B. HOOD,
"General."

A subsequent telegram from General Hood says that our loss of officers was exceedingly large in proportion to the loss of men.

FROM GEORGIA. FORT McALLISTER TAKEN BY SHERMAN.

Official intelligence was received yesterday that the enemy on Wednesday carried Fort McAllister by storm. The garrison of the fort consisted of 150 men. Fort McAllister is on the Ogeechee, fifteen miles southwest of Savannah, at the point where the river is crossed by the Savannah, Albany and Gulf Railroad; it is about six miles from the Ochsawnee Sound. The capture of this position puts Sherman in communication with the Yankee fleet. Without attempting any military criticism, we cannot withhold the opinion that the expending of 150 men to the result of Sherman's whole army was a piece of extravagance that our present military resources do not seem to warrant.

The Examiner has the following:

Fort McAllister commands the entrance to Ogeechee River, and has prevented the enemy heretofore from ascending the river. We believe there are other works farther up the stream which would render the navigation of the stream by the enemy extremely uncomfortable. The fall of Fort McAllister does not, by any means, involve the loss of Savannah, but will necessitate the re-enforcement of the troops defending the city. " " " At Okeech Springs the enemy captured an engine and fourteen flats, with some railroad hands. On these a party of men were mounted and sent up the road toward Marion, and a dispatch from the operator at that place on yesterday tells us that they were, at 2 o'clock, within a mile of that place. Their object is easily divined: it is to burn the bridge over the Hobson and break the road, to prevent troops from being sent down the line by steam to re-enter Saltville. To Saltville the main body will undoubtedly go, in all human probability has already gone. There are some fortifications at Saltville and some reserves; what number we do not know. If these can check them by any exertion, re-enforcements will soon put the place out of danger. At present it is certainly in very great danger.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., December 16, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

If you have any further news of General Thomas' success will you please send it, as it inspires the army here with great enthusiasm.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[DECEMBER 16, 1864.—For Sherman to Grant, referring to Thomas' operations in Tennessee, see Vol. XLIV, p. 728.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 16, 1864.—10 a. m.
(Sent 10.15 a. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

Your dispatch announcing General Thomas' success has been received with great satisfaction, as the situation of affairs at Nashville was su

as to afford cause for anxiety. I had every confidence in the judgment and high soldierly qualities of General Thomas, and am truly rejoiced to hear of his brilliant success.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN., *December 16, 1864—10 a. m.*
(Received 11.10 a. m.)

Ion, GIBBON WELLES, *Secretary of the Navy:*

General Thomas' attack yesterday upon Hood's left resulted in the capture of Chalmers' headquarters train, with papers, 1,000 prisoners, and 16 pieces of artillery, with probable loss to the army not exceeding 100 killed and wounded. Attack will be continued this morning.

S. P. 1,134,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 16, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

Major T. T. ROBERT:

Cipher just received. Hood has fallen back, and is apparently doing his best to get away, while Thomas is pressing him with great vigor, frequently capturing guns and men. Everything so far is perfectly successful, and the prospect very fair to crush Hood's army.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 16, 1864—9 p. m.*

Major T. T. ROBERT:

During last night Hood withdrew his right from the river and took a new position, covering Hillsborough, Granny White, and Franklin pikes, which line had been carefully prepared for just this contingency. He was driven from the first line easily, but the second was very stubbornly defended, and at last heavily assaulted three times before succeeding. It was carried, however, and 20 pieces of artillery and 2,000 men, including General Jackson, with the remnant of his division, were taken, the enemy forced back two miles, and his army broken into two parts—one on the [Granny] White pike, and the other on the Franklin, with the range of bluffy hills between them, Steedman and Wood pressing down the latter, and A. J. Smith, Schellert, and the cavalry down the former. Small arms lay as thick on the completed line as the rebels had stood there. Hood cannot make another such a day's flight, while Thomas is in good condition to press him. Caught more weapons—cannot say number. Everybody, white and black, did splendidly.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

NASHVILLE, *December 16, 1864.*

Captain RAMBEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: Our lines are in operation to Louisville and Clarksville. There is some interruption on lines north of Louisville just now.

Very respectfully,

E. C. BOYLE,
Manager Telegraph Office.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER,
Nashville, Tenn., December 16, 1864.

MAJ. JAMES R. WILLETT,
First U. S. Veteran Volunteer Engineers, &c.:

SIR: In accordance with instructions received from the major-general commanding the department, you will move the pontoon train at as early an hour as possible, on the Murfreesborough pike, being prepared to report with it to the commanding general at any point between Brentwood and Columbia. As soon as this is done you will report to him in person for special instructions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. C. WHARTON,
Lieut. Col. and Chief of Engineers, Dept. of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Hule's House, Gray's White Pike, December 16, 1864—9.30 p. m.
Brigadier-General WOOD and
Major-General STEEDMAN:

The major-general commanding directs that you move your commands, in your present order, on the Franklin pike, in pursuit of the enemy. Your wagon trains will follow the troops in the order of precedence. Major-General Wilson's command of cavalry will be on the left of and cover your left flank.

I have the honor to be, generals, your obedient servant,
ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, December 16, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am informed by General Couch that the enemy were very busy fortifying to his right and that of General Cox, at 12.10 a. m. Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

DECEMBER 16, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am at a loss to understand the infantry movement which General Wilson reports,* unless it be troops arriving from a distance. The enemy has not yet made any demonstration on my front. The ground masks his movements from the rear.

Respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

* See Wilson to Schofield, 10.10 a. m., p. 215.

DECEMBER 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS, *Commanding, &c.*:

GENERAL: Wilson is trying to push in toward the Granny White pike, about a mile south of my right. My skirmishers on the right are supporting him. The skirmishing is pretty heavy. I have not attempted to advance my main line to-day, and do not think I am strong enough to do so. Will you be on this part of the line soon?

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,

December 16, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Commanding Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report four pieces of artillery and a considerable number of prisoners captured by General Cox's division this afternoon. General Cox also reported four other pieces and caissons captured in the valley between the hill carried by General McArthur and that taken by General Cox. I learned, however, upon inquiry, that General McArthur's troops claimed, and, I have no doubt, justly, the honor of capturing the last four. My provost-marshal reports seventy-four prisoners captured this p. m. I have conversed with some of the officers captured, and am satisfied Hood's army is more thoroughly beaten than any troops I have ever seen. I congratulate you most heartily upon the result of the two days' operations. My messenger will wait for any orders you may have to send me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Major-Generals SCHOFIELD and SMITH:

Hale's House, Granny White Pike, December 16, 1864—9.30 (p. m.).

The major-general commanding directs that you move your commands at an early hour in the morning, the head of column starting at 8 o'clock, General Smith in advance, on the Granny White pike, concentrating with the Fourth Corps and the troops of the District of the Etowah at or near Brentwood. The whole army, when united, marching on Franklin. The wagon trains of Generals Schofield's and Smith's commands will follow the troops in order of precedence, on the Granny White pike.

I have the honor to be, generals, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, December 16, 1864—10.10 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,

Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The regiment sent to the Granny White pike reports it strongly picketed toward us, with troops moving to our left. This is

probably Chalmers' division. I have heard nothing from Johnson this morning, but, from what General Croston reports, there is no doubt that Chalmers crossed the Hardin pike, moving toward Brentwood. The country on the left of the Hillsborough pike, toward the enemy's left, is too difficult for cavalry operations. It seems to me if I was on the other flank of the army I might do more to annoy the enemy, unless it be intended that I shall push out as directed last night.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Direct Major-General.

[Enclosure 1]

Respectfully forwarded to Major-General Thomas,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, December 16, 1864—11.15 a. m.

General WILSON, *Commanding Cavalry.*

I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you of the receipt of your two dispatches of this a. m., which he will forward to Major-General Thomas. He desires to know if the enemy reported moving are on the Granny White pike, and, if so, at what point; and he thinks, until you receive other orders from General Thomas, you had better hold your forces in readiness to support the troops here, in case the enemy make a heavy attack.

Very respectfully,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HUGHES, COUCH'S DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD CORPS,
December 16, 1864—12.10 a. m.

CHIEF OF STAFF OF GENERAL SCHOFIELD:

COLONEL: For the information of the general I beg to state that the rebels are very busy fortifying to my right and that of General Cox's. I am fortifying my position.

Respectfully,

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

HUGHES, SECOND DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864—12 m.

Major WHERRY, *Chief of Staff.*

The country in direction of Granny White pike is so covered by hills and woods as to prevent me from making the observations as directed. The rebels have a line of works commencing at the apex of the hill next to the one I took yesterday, running down to the cross road—cross road running east and west—and all along that road for at least two miles easterly. I might take the above hill in front, but am not certain as to my ability to hold it.

Respectfully,

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

HQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major WHERRY:

Appearances are that the enemy is in not a heavy force on Smith's front. I have just ordered in a brigade to support McCarthy [McArthur?] in his attempt to carry the hill on my front.

Respectfully,

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

HQRS. COUCH'S DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864—7.15 [a. m.].

Brigadier-General COX:

It is reliably reported that a rebel column has been moving to my right for nearly two hours. You will please read this and send to General Schofield, if you have one of his orderlies with you.

Respectfully,

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 16, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. J. SMITH,

Comdg. Detach. Army of the Tennessee, in the Field:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send a good division to support General Schofield's right against a threatened attack by the enemy. The force you have sent he reports inadequate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 16, 1864.

Major-General STEEDMAN,

Commanding District of the Etowah:

What is the position of affairs on your front this morning?

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS GENERAL STEEDMAN,
In the Field, December 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

I am out five miles on the Nolensville pike, my right closed up on General Wood's left, pressing the enemy's right and rear; everything he has is on the right of the Nolensville pike.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL STEEDMAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

The enemy have abandoned this part of their line and seem to have moved toward the right. I now occupy Riddle's Hill, and will press forward carefully toward the enemy. Prisoners say their wagon train is on road to Franklin.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers.

NASHVILLE, December 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

GENERAL: On my way out to my command I stopped a moment at General Critt's quarters to endeavor to communicate with you for orders. I pushed out on the Nolensville pike and joined General Wood at a critical juncture, aiding him to carry the enemy's right. I went without orders, but I hope you are not displeased with my movements. I am on General Wood's left with about 3,000 men, and desire to know your wishes. I went out without anything but ammunition, not expecting to move more than a mile; but feeling that I could best protect the left by keeping well around the flank, I pushed on until I made the junction with General Wood, and went into camp on his left at dark.

With esteem, yours, truly,

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major General.

HEADQ. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Granny White Pike, Tucker's House, Eight Miles from Nashville,
December 16, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

General Hatch has captured General Rucker, a number of prisoners, and one battle-flag; Rucker is wounded. I will collect my command and cross Harpeth as early as possible. Have already ordered Johnson forward by the Hillsborough pike, with directions to move into Franklin as rapidly as he can. I will move at daylight, or, if practicable, by 4 a. m. If you wish anything other than the above please send at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Reveret Major General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Hale's House, Granny White Pike, December 16, 1864—9.10 p. m.
Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

The major-general commanding directs that you leave Johnson's division of cavalry on the Hillsborough pike, to observe the enemy and protect our right and rear, and move with the balance of your com

mand over to the Franklin pike, to operate on that road and the road running east of the same. You will express to your entire command the cordial congratulations of the major-general commanding for their success and his hearty thanks for the bravery of the troops.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION CAVALRY,
Hopkinsville, Ky., December 16, 1864—6 p. m.
(Via Russellville 12 m. 18th.)

General J. H. WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps, Nashville, Tenn.:

After marching all last night I struck part of Lyon's command here, routed them, and captured their artillery. Colonel Chenoweth, their commander, is among the prisoners wounded. General Lyon has gone toward Princeton. I will pursue as long as is practicable or profitable. I fear he may scatter his command, although I sent all my transportation back to Bowling Green. From Russellville the roads are so exceedingly bad that it is impossible to move rapidly.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, { HIGGS, SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 36, { MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Louisville, Ky., December 16, 1864.

There being a sufficient number of horses to mount the entire division, it is hereby ordered that brigade and regimental commanders get their commands in readiness to march as soon as possible. Brigade and regimental commanders to organize, if they have not already done so, their provost guards in accordance with existing orders. These guards to be placed under charge of a reliable non-commissioned officer where the security of regimental officers will not admit of a commissioned officer being placed in charge of them. The pioneer corps will be promptly organized, in accordance with orders heretofore issued from these headquarters, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, and the men composing them will be promptly furnished with the necessary tools. These parties will also be placed in charge of a good non-commissioned officer where it is impracticable to furnish a commissioned officer. Brigade and regimental commanders will at once provide their men with haversacks and canteens, if they have not already been so provided. As it is impracticable to take an ordnance train from here to Nashville, and not improbable that the command will have fighting to do en route to that place, brigade and regimental commanders will see that their men having guns are provided with 100 rounds of ammunition per man before leaving here and cautioned in reference to taking care of it.

By command of Brig. Gen. Eli Long:

T. W. SCOTT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR BROWN'S HOUSE, ONE MILE SOUTH OF DAVIDSON'S,
December 16, 1864.

[General WILSON:]

GENERAL: We have driven the enemy from this place and following up. At this point the enemy has turned to the left in direction of Hardin pike. I shall follow up, and will again communicate with you when I reach that pike. I commenced operations this morning at 4 o'clock. Please send any news you have. Hatch did nobly; my only regret is that his captures were not made by the Sixth.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Hillsborough Pike, Six or Seven Miles from Nashville,
December 16, 1864—9.15 a. m. (Received 3.25 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps.

GENERAL: All the information we have goes to show that Chalmers has joined the main army with his command. If this is so, and you have no force of the enemy in your front, the general commanding desires you to move your command to this point. He has heard nothing from you to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 16, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps.

GENERAL: Your dispatch of this a. m. just received. The general commanding desires you to push the force in your front as rapidly as possible, and should you need assistance send him word. We have no news from the left, where the fighting is. Hatch, Knipe, and Croxton are here, retired on the right of Schofield, the line extending across and perpendicular to the Murfreesborough turnpike.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HARDIN PIKE, December 16, 1864—10.25 a. m.

[General WILSON:]

GENERAL: Occupy Hardin pike where it crosses Harpeth. Thereabouts have all gone toward Franklin by a road which leaves Hardin pike at the brick church (marked on the map). I will push on in pursuit as rapidly as possible. Since leaving pike I have had very bad roads. Have captured a few prisoners and a few wagons without teams.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

TWO MILES WEST OF HILLSBOROUGH PIKE,
December 16, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General WILSON:

GENERAL: The enemy crossed a number of their wagons over the Harpeth at the railroad bridge (Northwestern railroad). Destroyed the railroad bridge, but their troops moved by the road represented on our map as leaving the Hardin pike at the brick church. I am now going into line facing the Hillsborough pike, and will attack as soon as I get my battery up and in position. The enemy pressed a guide to conduct him here, and I have him. He says the rebs had with them twelve pieces of artillery, which they had in use yesterday on the Charlotte and Hardin pikes. A way to my left I can hear small-arms; if our cavalry, and it can press on, they will be in the rear of the guns. The dismounted brigade could not keep up, and I left it on the Hardin pike. All the rebs on my right and rear are beyond the Big Harpeth, and that brigade covers the city. I could not overtake the enemy if I had kept them with me. I hope all is satisfactory. Have not heard from Croxton to-day. Have taken a few more prisoners since my last.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

HILLSBOROUGH PIKE, NEAR TOLL-HOUSE,
December 16, 1864—3.15 p. m.

General WILSON:

GENERAL: Have driven the enemy from his chosen position and now occupy the pike. The enemy left on the pike, and I will push him over the Big Harpeth to-night. Have communicated with General Hammond, immediately in my rear.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Compton's House, December 16, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Yours received. General Wilson has gone to the front. Hatch, Kuiper, and Croxton have gone in and won, capturing some prisoners. I understand the infantry have carried the works and taken a large number of prisoners. Cannot vouch for the truth of the report, but am inclined to believe it. Enemy said to be running at all points. Your movements are satisfactory to General Wilson.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
*Granny White Pike, Eight Miles from Nashville,
December 16, 1864—7 p. m.*

General R. W. JOHNSON,
Commanding Sixth Division Cavalry Corps:

I want you to move at the earliest possible moment for Franklin on the Hillsborough pike. Dispatches captured on the person of General

Rucker (now a prisoner) say all their trains were ordered there this morning, and that cavalry of Chalmers must take care of this flank. Go for him with all possible celerity, as Hood says the safety of their army depends upon Chalmers. I will move by the nearest roads to the Harpeth, and connect with you somewhere very early to-morrow near Franklin. The rebels are badly beaten and in full retreat. The day is glorious! Hatch and Knipe have done splendidly. I regret you were not here, but all right to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HOOPER CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
*Tucker's House, Eight Miles from Nashville,
on Grassy White Pike, December 16, 1864.*

Brigadier-General JOHNSON,
Comdg. Sixth Division Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 3.15 p. m. is received. Well done. I have sent you orders to keep crowding the enemy and try to get into Franklin. Shove him as closely as possible; give him no peace. A dispatch from General Hood, captured with General Rucker, says the safety of his army depends upon the ability of Chalmers to keep us off; time is all he wants. Don't give him any. I will meet you somewhere on the Harpeth River to-morrow with the whole force. This has been a splendid day. Knipe and Hatch have done splendidly.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LITTLE HARPETH, *December 16, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

[General WILSON:]

GENERAL: The enemy having fallen back a short distance on the Hillsborough pike, fell back in considerable confusion on roads leading toward Franklin and Brentwood. I am now nine miles from Franklin and the same distance from Nashville. Hammond is not far in my rear. I sent a squadron down the pike to the Big Harpeth, with orders to push in rapidly and return this evening. This force has just returned and reports having met a picket on the pike near Big Harpeth. I do not believe there is any force in that direction, though there may be a small picket. The woods indicate and the citizens all agree that the main rebel cavalry force passed over in the direction of Brentwood or Franklin. I would like to receive instructions to-night. I have ordered my command under arms and ready for work by 4 a. m. Have you any orders in relation to Biddle's dismounted brigade left on the Big Harpeth at the crossing of the Hardin pike? I inclose report of office sent out to Big Harpeth.

Respectfully,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH IOWA CAVALRY,
December 16, 1861.

Lieutenant-Colonel BAIRD:

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with your orders, I advanced on the Hillsborough pike, in the direction of the Big Harpeth River, about two miles and a half. About two miles beyond where we are now camped I discovered a road coming in from the right that appeared to have been traveled to-day by a large column of cavalry and a number of wagons. About a quarter of a mile farther on I found two other roads coming in from the left. These were newly made and well beaten. I would think, from appearances, that artillery had been brought in on one or both of them. A short distance beyond this I came upon a strong picket, so posted that I could not drive it back. After firing several shots, and becoming satisfied that I could not advance any farther without too much risk, I returned.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. C. McBEATH,
Captain, Fifth Iowa Cavalry.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Granny White Pike, Tucker's House, December 16, 1861.
(Received 1.10 a. m. 17th.)

Brigadier-General JOHNSON,
Comdy, Sixth Div., Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Orders have been sent you by two different messengers; one order by an orderly from your headquarters. Direct Colonel Riddle to join you at the crossing of the Harpeth River by the Hillsborough pike. If possible, let him reach it before you do, and he may pick up some prisoners. A portion of Chalmers' division may still be in front of you. Push him with all your might, and we will attend to him on this line.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HILLSBOROUGH PIKE, *December 16, 1861.*

Major-General WILSON:

General Knipe not being present, I report from a regiment that I have on the Granny White pike that the pike is very strongly picketed and numerous detachments moving toward our left generally. While I write this I hear scattering fire over there.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brigadier-General.

Major Hobbs, Nineteenth Pennsylvania, on Granny White pike, has sent in another courier, saying the enemy's picket-line is strong, and a force in front. I have ordered him to not fall back, unless compelled, and then slowly.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 16, 1864.

General WILSON:

Major Holahan has been obliged to fall back from the Granny White pike. He reports heavy masses of infantry are constantly moving to our left, and have been for nearly an hour. We have ten prisoners—eight from Cheatham's division—all of whom came over from their right last night and this morning; two, also, of General Stewart's escort. Stewart's headquarters on Granny White pike, a mile and a half from here.

Respectfully,

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brigadier-General.

(Copies forwarded by General Wilson to Generals Whipple and Schofield.)

BRICK CHURCH, ON THE HARDIN PIKE,
December 16, 1864. (Received 10.25 a. m.)

Col. ISRAEL GARRARD,

Commanding Seventh Ohio Volunteer Cavalry:

COLONEL: I occupy the Hardin pike at this point, and find that the enemy have taken the Franklin road, which branches out at the Hardin pike at this point. General Chalmers passed here at 8 o'clock this morning. Found one abandoned wagon here.

Yours, obediently,

R. C. RANKIN,
Captain, Commanding Detachment.

STEVENSON, December 16, 1864.

General MEAGHER:

Telegram from Decherd just received gives the following:

Commanding officer at Duck River reports heaviest cannonading of the campaign being heard in direction northwestward from there.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

STEVENSON, December 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General MEAGHER:

The report of Breckinridge's moving from Manchester to this place has reached us. The artillery firing was heard here, at Larkinsville and was reported at Duck River as coming from the northwest. Officers at Decherd reports all quiet in that neighborhood. The firing the late heard by your party must have been that from the vicinity Nashville or Franklin.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

STEVENSON, *December 16, 1864.*

Brigadier-General MEAGHER,
Commanding District of the Etowah:

The following telegram has just been received which is the most reliable of anything we have received, and will account for the firing heard to-day:

DECHERD, *December 16, 1864.*

I have reliable information that Breckinridge, with a force of cavalry, infantry, and artillery, estimated at 10,000, passed Woodbury, twenty-one miles southeast of Murfreesborough, going toward Murfreesborough. Heavy artillery firing heard all day to-day in direction of the latter place.

WILLARD WARNER,
Colonel, Commanding.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

BRIDGEPORT, *December 16, 1864.*

Capt. HENRY A. FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

A reliable citizen reports artillery firing distinctly heard on the mountain thirteen miles from this place on yesterday afternoon, and this morning in the direction of Decherd Station, and Breckinridge is reported leaving Manchester with 4,500 men, marching upon Stevenson. The reasonable presumption is that the firing was by his command.

M. C. TAYLOR,
Colonel, Commanding.

PADUCAH, KY., *December 16, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: Lyon has captured Princeton, Ky., and Eddyville. He is conscripting, and taking private property for miles around. The party of 1,000 men left at Danville crossing have disappeared. The regiments of infantry which you ordered me to detain for the purpose of moving against Lyon at Danville are arriving, but without cavalry it is impossible for me to move against Lyon. Can I detain any of the cavalry and the infantry and assume the offensive? Please answer.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

LEXINGTON, *December 16, 1864.*

General S. MEREDITH,
Paducah, Ky.:

No re-enforcements can be spared at present for your district. I understand a part of General Thomas' cavalry is taking care of Lyon. Please keep me informed of his movements. The general commanding expects you will hold Paducah, Columbus, and Smithland, but at present make no offensive movement.

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHLAND, *December 16, 1864.*

Capt. JAMES GRAHAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: A reliable scout reports that a small party of rebels entered Dyersburg about noon to day. Several shots were fired at him, but he escaped. He thinks their object is plunder and conscription.

Very respectfully,

HENRY P. REED,
Captain, Commanding Post.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HIGGINS, MILITARY DIST. OF KENTUCKY,
 No. 42. } *Lexington, Ky., December 16, 1864.*

11. Col. P. W. Stanhope is assigned to the command of the camp of rendezvous, at Covington, Ky., established by Special Orders, No. 26, paragraph V, of date October 6, 1864, from these headquarters, vice G. Clay Smith relieved.

By command of Brevet Major-General Burbridge:
 J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEXINGTON, *December 16, 1864.*

Ident. Col. T. B. FAIRLEIGH,
Louisville, Ky.:

General Meredith telegraphs that Lyon has captured Princeton and Eddyville, and commands the Cumberland at Kelly's crossing with eight pieces of artillery. What reliable information have you about Lyon?

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ALBANY, *December 16, 1864.*

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A party of thirty rebels has passed down the country between her and Sharpsburg, crossing six miles from this place. They are said to be well mounted. Would it not be well to bring one gun down from fort and post it in the northern end of town, and protect it with a company of infantry?

BARNER,
Captain.
 Per JOHN J. SEWELL,
Lieutenant and Post Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIANA,
Indianapolis, December 16, 1861.

Capt. C. H. POTTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am informed by telegram from Madison, Ind., that Colonel Jesse's men have taken Milton, a small town in Kentucky. They here fired on two steamers, and left in the direction of Bedford, Ky. We must have a small force for the front on the Ohio.

ALVIN P. HOVEY,
Brevet Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 17, 1861—10 a. m.

Governor SEYMOUR,
Albany:

The great battle between the United States forces under Major-General Thomas and the rebel army under General Hood, before Nashville, resulted yesterday in a great and decisive victory for the Union arms. The rebel army has been broken and routed, a large portion of its artillery and great numbers of prisoners captured. This triumph has been achieved with small loss to our army. General Thomas reports that his loss has been very small, probably not exceeding 300,* and very few killed.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

(Same to Governor Andrew, Boston; Governor Smith, Saint Albans, Vt.; Governor Cony, Augusta; Governor Smith, Providence; Governor Curtin, Harrisburg; Governor Brough, Columbus; Governor Morton, Indianapolis; Governor Blair, Jackson, Mich.; Governor Stone, Davenport, Iowa; Governor Yates, Springfield, Ill.; Governor of Wisconsin, Madison; Governor Boreman, Wheeling; Mayor of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mayor of Steubenville, Ohio; Governor Tod, Youngstown, Ohio; Governor of Missouri, Saint Louis; General Meade; General Pope, Milwaukee, Wis.; General Curtis, Fort Leavenworth; General Dodge, Saint Louis; General Cadwalader, Philadelphia; General Lew. Wallace, Baltimore; General Hooker, Cincinnati; and Colonel Sweet, Chicago.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 17, 1861—8.35 a. m. (Sent 10.25 a. m.)

Major-General DIX,
New York:

The following official report of the great victory achieved yesterday by Major-General Thomas and his gallant army over the rebel forces under General Hood, in front of Nashville, was received this morning. One of the most surprising circumstances connected with this great

* Three thousand, as reported by Thomas, see p. 210.
† See 6 p. m. of 16th, p. 210.

achievement is the small loss suffered by our troops, evincing, among other things, the admirable skill and caution of General Thomas in his disposition of the battle. In our rejoicings at the defeat of the enemy thanks are due to the Almighty for his protection to our gallant officers and soldiers in the great conflict they have passed through. The report of General Thomas, and also an unofficial report* containing interesting details, are subjoined.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., December 17, 1861—10 p. m.

Major-General DIX:

* * * * *

Nothing has been heard from General Thomas to-day. Unofficial dispatches state that the provost marshal at Nashville reports 5,000 prisoners and 40 pieces of artillery as being already secured. It is ascertained that in transmitting General Thomas' report last night a telegraphic mistake was made at Louisville or Nashville in the estimated number of our casualties. The dispatch written by General Thomas stated that his whole loss would not exceed 3,000, and very few were killed.

* * * * *

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 17, 1861—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT.

Hurlington, N. J.:

Thomas victorious yesterday. Hood's army broken; driven back to the Brentwood Hills; many prisoners and cannon taken; pursuit to be renewed to-day. Our loss not over 300. Sherman took Fort McAllister Wednesday. If you start soon there is yet time for your report to be made as promised. Details will be sent you soon as possible, but the telegraph works badly. Dispatches from Foster are being received, and a messenger with sealed dispatches from Sherman has reached Fortress Monroe on his way up.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Franklin, Tenn., December 17, 1861—8 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

We have pressed the enemy to-day beyond Franklin, capturing his hospitals, containing over 1,500 wounded, and about 150 of our wounded. In addition to the above, General Knipe, commanding a division of

* See Van Dizer to Eckert, 9 p. m. 16th (p. 213), omitting the address and signature.

† Three thousand, as reported by Thomas, see p. 210.

cavalry, drove the enemy's rear guard through Franklin to-day, capturing about 250 prisoners and 5 battle-flags, with very little loss on our side. Citizens of Franklin represent Hood's army as completely demoralized. In addition to the captures of yesterday, reported in my dispatch of last night, I have the honor to report the capture of General Rucker and about 250 prisoners of the enemy's cavalry, in a fight that occurred about 8 o'clock last night between General Rucker and General Hatch, of our cavalry. The enemy has been pressed to-day both in front and on both flanks. Brigadier-General Johnson succeeded in striking him on the flank just beyond Franklin, capturing quite a number of prisoners, number not yet reported. My cavalry is pressing him closely to-night, and I am very much in hopes of getting many more prisoners to-morrow. Luckily, but little damage has been done the railroad, and I expect to have trains close up to the army to-morrow night. I have just heard from General Stoneman, at Kingsport, under date of the 13th instant. He left Knoxville on the 10th, overtook Duke's (formerly Morgan's) command on the 12th, and during the night drove him across the North Fork of Holston River. Next morning crossed the river and attacked, captured and killed nearly the whole command, taking the entire wagon train. Col. R. C. Morgan, a brother of John Morgan, is, with many other officers, a prisoner. Duke's command is considered completely destroyed. The fighting was done by Gillem's command and the Thirtieth Kentucky, of General Burbridge's command. Stoneman in motion for Bristol, where he hopes to intercept Vaughn. A part of the captured train was that lost by Gillem on retreat from Bull's Gap. I now consider the Cumberland perfectly safe from Nashville down, and have directed the chief quartermaster to commence shipping stores up it immediately. As there is also a fair prospect for another rise in the Tennessee River, I have requested Admiral Lee to send some iron-clads and gun-boats up that river, to destroy Hood's pontoon bridge, if possible, and cut off his retreat.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to Major-General Halleck.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Franklin, Tenn., December 17, 1864.
(Via Pittsburg 5 p. m. 18th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington D. C.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 17, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Burlington, N. J.:

Have just arrived. Weather bad; raining since yesterday morning. People here jubilant over Thomas' success. Confidence seemed to be restored. I will remain here to hear from you. All things going right. It would seem best that I return to join my command with Sherman.

JNO. A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,

December 17, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Sent 6.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I congratulate the President, yourself, and the country on the glorious victory achieved by Major-General Thomas and the troops under his command. I have directed a salute of 100 guns to be fired to-morrow at sunrise in honor of this brilliant triumph.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE SHENANDOAH,

December 17, 1864. (Received 18th)

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

The Army of the Shenandoah, through me, send their hearty congratulations to yourself and army for the brilliant victory at Nashville on the 15th and 16th instant. We have given you 200 guns and much cheering.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

I have the honor to acknowledge receiving, and to thank you for the early telegraphic copy, of your admirable official report to the President of your great and glorious victory over the enemy of our country and of mankind on the 15th and 16th instant. I am deeply impressed with the belief that our whole country will now or hereafter appreciate the generalship, statesmanship, and patriotism of your campaign resulting in the signal defeat of General Hood's army, in which centered the strength and hopes of half the rebellion, with little loss, under great difficulties and with probably political consequences and more important than have followed the previous achievements of the war. Permit me on this occasion to express my humble admiration of your distinguished public services, which evince all the high qualities of virtue, patriotism, and ability, characteristic of our first great countryman.

Respectfully and faithfully, yours,

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Franklin, December 17, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Admiral S. P. LEE,
Clarksville:

Your dispatch of this day is received, and I sincerely thank you for your very flattering congratulations. I have directed my dispatch of this p. m. to General Halleck to be sent you for your information. If you think it feasible I shall be much obliged if you will permit Lieutenant-Commander Fitch to proceed up the Tennessee River, with one or two iron-clads and a few gun-boats, for the purpose of destroying Hood's pontoon bridge near Florence and at the mouth of Duck River, where it is reported he is now building a bridge.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 17, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Convoy arrived at Smithland on the 16th, without encountering opposition. Gun-boats actively patrolling river, but have not seen or heard of rebel force.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Hale's House, Granny White Pike, December 17, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain MORDECAI,
Chief of Ordnance, Military Division of the Mississippi:

CAPTAIN: The major-general commanding directs that you have collected together all the artillery and small-arms, with other ordnance property, captured from the enemy in the engagements of the 15th and 16th, and a correct inventory of the same forwarded to these headquarters as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Franklin, December 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he now considers the Cumberland River perfectly safe, and that he desires you to resume shipments on the river to Nashville from below. Army continues to be successful in taking prisoners. We have taken about 450, and 5 flags. The enemy will be pursued in the night. All well.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your servant,

ROBT. H. R
Assistant Adju

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 17, 1864—12 noon.*

Major ECKERT:

No report from the front this morning. From the provost-marshal I get number of prisoners, up to this hour, 5,000, and gather from other sources number of guns 49.

J. C. VAN DUZER,

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 17, 1864—10 p. m.*

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

Just in from the front. Enemy made only sufficient resistance to-day to enable him to get his transportation away. General Thomas crowded him as much as possible, and has captured 1,000 prisoners, driving enemy across Harpeth River, but not securing bridges by which he crossed. Cavalry forded and engaged on south bank, when night overtook us. Have captured no guns or wagons so far as I know. Hood is in rapid retreat, and the state of ground is such as to confine pursuit to pike roads, cross-roads and fields impassable for artillery or transportation. Stragglers and rear guard will be picked up daily; not much else.

J. C. VAN DUZER,

CIRCULAR.]

HUGHES, DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Near Franklin, December 17, 1864—9.30 p. m.

The major-general commanding directs that the army will move in pursuit of the enemy, in the present order of the different commands, at as early an hour after daylight as possible to-morrow morning, December 18.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

Near Nashville, December 17, 1864—6 a. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Army Corps for to-day, December 17, 1864:

The advance against the enemy will continue this morning, the troops moving upon receipt of this order—General Kimball on the right, General Elliott in the center, General Beatty on the left. Division commanders will deploy one brigade each. The rest of the troops will follow in column until the enemy is met, when a second brigade will be deployed and the enemy pressed with all vigor possible. Attacks will [not] be made upon his solid works except under special orders.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Franklin, Tenn., December 17, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Colonel Suman, in charge of building or rather repairing the bridge across the river, reports that it will be impossible to accomplish the work, owing to the rapid rise in the river, the swiftness of the current, and the amount of driftwood coming down the stream. One of the bents that he straightened up has been pushed down again, and he has one bent yet to put in, which he cannot do, as the men cannot work in the river and they have no boats to assist them. I see no other way than to wait for the pontoon train. This should be hurried forward, for I am confident we cannot cross until it comes up. If you will hurry that forward we will put it down and cross immediately.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Franklin, Tenn., December 17, 1864—8 p. m.

Colonel SUMAN,
Ninth Indiana:

If the prospects for completing the bridge are no better than when I was there with you, and you are still of the opinion you were when I left you, you may suspend work and go to camp. You had better draw your rations to night.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

W. H. SINCLAIR,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Franklin, Tenn., December 17, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL:

GENERAL: The prospect is that we will not have the bridge finished before a late hour to-night. Let your troops rest as well as they can. We will not move before 3 a. m. Timely notice will be given of the hour.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Elliott and Beatty.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, December 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that citizens on the road in rear of where we fought yesterday report that the universal testimony of rebels, officers and men, is that Forrest was killed certainly at Murfreesborough, where they admit their cavalry was badly whipped.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOF.
Maj

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
December 17, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding U. S. Forces:

GENERAL: I have reached the Little Harpeth, on the Granny White pike, or rather the road which is the continuation of it. This is where the road turns off to strike the Franklin pike below Brentwood. General Smith's troops are massed in my front, waiting for the pike to be cleared of trains. It will be hardly possible for me to get further to-night. I will mass my troops here, and try to get up my wagons and issue rations this evening. I am bridging the Little Harpeth where the Granny White road crosses it, so that my infantry may move that way. The road is hardly practicable for artillery.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Near Nashville, Tenn., December 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COYEN,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you march your command on the Granny White pike this morning, directly in the rear of General Smith's column, which starts at 8 o'clock. You will be followed by General Cox. The division ordnance trains and ambulances will move with the troops. All other trains will follow in the rear of General Smith's trains in the order of march of the divisions, one section of the supply train in advance.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
On Granny White Pike, December 17, 1864.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Ohio:

MAJOR: I have the honor to claim for my command the capture of eight pieces of the enemy's artillery, in the charge made by the First Brigade last evening. The four pieces captured by the Eighth Tennessee Infantry, as stated by Colonel Doodittle, in the accompanying dispatch, were not put under guard at the moment, and a guard was subsequently put over them and the pieces claimed by McArthur's division, Sixteenth Corps.

J. D. COX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(Enclosure.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, December 17, 1864.

Capt. THEODORE COX,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that in the charge on the enemy's position yesterday our brigade captured eight pieces of artillery, six

12's, instead of four, as reported verbally. The four pieces claimed by McArthur's division, Sixteenth Corps, were taken by the Eighth Tennessee, who drove the enemy from them. The Twelfth Kentucky took the other four pieces.

CHAS. C. DOOLITTLE,
Colonel Eighteenth Michigan Infantry, Commanding.

[First Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Franklin, Tenn., December 19, 1861.

Respectfully forwarded to headquarters Department of the Cumberland.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

[Second Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Duck River, Tenn., December 23, 1861.

Respectfully forwarded to Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, Chief of Staff, recommending that Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox be promoted to the grade of major-general.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 17, 1861.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In the condition of the roads I think it certain that the trains will be so late getting up that it will be entirely impracticable to bring rations here from the Franklin pike. I would suggest that the quickest way will be for us to march to the place where the trains are in the morning, and halt there long enough to issue. If this is done, please give me the order of march as early as practicable.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. D. COX,
Brigadier-General.

HQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DETACH. ARMY OF THE TENN.,
In the Field, near Nashville, Tenn., December 17, 1861.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

"Smith's guerrillas" again did a noble work yesterday, not the least portion of which is due to the First Division. I respectfully ask, as an act of justice and honor fairly won, that Col. W. L. McMillen, Ninety-fifth Regiment Ohio Infantry Volunteers, Col. L. F. Hubbard, Fifth Regiment Minnesota Infantry Volunteers, commanding the First and Second Brigades, respectively, be appointed brigadier-generals; also Col. S. G. Hill, Thirty-fifth Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers, who commanded the Third Brigade, and was killed while gallantly charging the enemy's work, I would recommend to be gazetted a brigadier-general.

J. McARTHUR,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

(First Indorsement.)

I heartily concur in the recommendation of General McArthur, and respectfully request the appointments may be made.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General, Volunteers.

(Second Indorsement.)

I witnessed the assault on the enemy's works conducted by the above named officers, and unhesitatingly commend them for their gallant bearing.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Vols., Comdg. Dept. of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Granny White Pike, December 17, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,
Commanding First Division:

The major general commanding directs that you move your command out on the Granny White pike at 8 a. m., you taking the advance; the Second and Third Divisions will follow you; and after them, the Twenty-third Corps. Move out the Granny White pike to Brentwood, where you will connect with the Fourth Corps and others, the whole army when united, to march on Franklin. The wagon trains will follow the troops, in the order of precedence, on the Granny White pike. You will cover the march as far as Brentwood with a strong body of skirmishers passing over the hills to the east of and bordering the road.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith:

J. HUGH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, December 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General McARTHUR,
Commanding First Division:

You will march your division at 8 a. m. to-morrow, in rear of the Third Division, Second Division leading. I hope your subsistence train will join you to-night; if so, direct it to follow you.

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DETACH. ARMY OF THE TENN.,
In the Field, near Nashville, Tenn., December 17, 1864.

Col. L. F. HUBBARD,
Commanding Second Brigade, First Division:

SIR: You will move your command on the Granny White pike at a. m. to Brentwood, following the First Brigade. At Brentwood the division will connect with the Fourth Corps, and when the whole army unites, we move on Franklin. The wagon trains will follow their resp

ive brigades. You will, if necessary, cover the march with a strong body of skirmishers as far as Brentwood, passing over the hills to the east of and bordering the road, moving in conjunction with the skirmishers of the First Brigade.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. McArthur:

W. H. P. RANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., December 17, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Stevenson, Ala.:

A signal party left here to-day in the 5 p. m. train. Order the party to return.

SOUTHARD HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Granny White Pike, Eight Miles from Nashville,
December 17, 1864—3 a. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

The order of the major general commanding, dated 9.10 p. m. yesterday, is received. I shall be compelled, in obedience thereto, to continue on this road as far as Brentwood, and probably farther. It seems to me that I shall be able to do the enemy more damage by crowding him now by the shortest route, instead of losing any time to get to the other flank. I have already ordered Johnson to move very early by the Hillsborough pike for Franklin, and will do the best I possibly can with the balance of the force. The second copy of your dispatch is just received. I will send Croxton and Knipe direct to the Franklin pike; Hatch will strike it at Brentwood. I sent you word last night that I would try to get into Franklin with the whole force, but your dispatch does not acknowledge the receipt of my communication. I feel obliged to press toward the other flank. General Rucker, who was captured last night, says Hood would have retreated sooner, if he could. A dispatch from Hood to Chalmers says, "Time is all we want." I infer that he expects the arrival of Forrest's forces. The infantry ought, therefore, to crowd the enemy vigorously on the Franklin pike, and, if possible, prevent a junction of Hood and the forces now in the direction of Murfreesborough. I'll have reveille sounded, and move forward at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Franklin, Tenn., December 17, 1864—1 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: The rebels are on a great skedaddle; the last of them, closely pressed by Knipe, passed through this place two hours and a half ago. I have directed Johnson to try and strike them at Spring

[H.] Knipe is pressing down the Columbia pike; Hatch close on their fl; Croxton I shall direct down the Lewisburg pike. The prisoners report the rebel army in a complete rout, and all the Tennesseans are deserting. Colonel Alexander, my chief of staff, is just in from Johnson, who is well down on the Columbia pike, having struck here about the same time that Knipe did. The rebel rear guard is in position on the hills just south of here. I have everything in hand except Croxton, and will drive at them without delay. The Harpeth is rising rapidly; I'll bridge down. Shove up the infantry and get up the pontoons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

Knipe has 5 battle-flags and 300 prisoners. The rebel army seems to be down on Hood.

J. H. W.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Franklin, December 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General WHIPPLE:]

GENERAL: The rebels began passing through here early yesterday morning—cavalry, artillery, and infantry. One of our surgeons here says he never saw a worse rabble; they are completely demoralized. I'll do what I can for the rear guard. Can't hear definitely of Forrest, though it is reported he withdrew from Murfreesborough yesterday.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Three Miles North of Thompson's Station, on West Harpeth,
December 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff;

GENERAL: We have "bust up" Stevenson's division of infantry, a brigade of cavalry, and taken three guns. The Fourth Cavalry and Hatch's division, supported by Knipe, made several beautiful charges, breaking the rebel infantry in all directions. There has been a great deal of night firing, volleys and cannonading from our guns—the rebels have none. It is very dark, and our men are considerably scattered, but I'll collect them on this bank of the stream—West Harpeth. Hatch is a brick!

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Johnson's House, Six Miles from Franklin,
December 17, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: Upon further investigation I find that Knipe's division participated most handsomely in the affair of this evening; nothing

could have been more brilliant than the behavior of the troops. If it had only been light we would certainly have destroyed their entire rear guard; as it was, they were severely punished. The guns will be sent in as soon as wheels can be fitted to the carriages. My command needs forage badly; this country seems to be entirely stripped. I will assemble everything, except Croxton's brigade, along the line of the West Harpeth to-night. Johnson must be near our right flank. As soon as it is light in the morning, and everything fed, I will push forward.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 17, 1861—10.50 [p. m.].

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Comd'g. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Yours of 6 and 7.10 this eve received. The major-general commanding approves of your suggestion to feed and push on in the morning as early as possible. He also desires to express his high appreciation of the conduct of yourself, officers, and men. He has just learned from General A. J. Smith that he yesterday captured Johnson's entire division, including Johnson himself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Franklin, Tenn., December 17, 1861—9 p. m.

Brevet Major-General WILSON,
Comd'g. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

The river rose so rapidly, the driftwood was so heavy, and the current so swift, that I have been unable to make a bridge, and do not expect to get over until the pontoons come. I have notified General Thomas, and asked him to hurry up the pontoons. I tell you of this so you may know how I am situated. If the pontoons get up to-night I hope to get off early in the morning, and will use all possible dispatch in getting up to you. I congratulate you and your command on your distinguished success to-day.

Respectfully,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HQS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Granny White Pike, Eight Miles from Nashville,
December 17, 1861—3.30 a. m.

The Cavalry Corps will move at the earliest possible moment after the receipt of this order, by the following lines:

1. Croxton's brigade will march, by the most direct road, to the Franklin pike, pressing the enemy closely by that road and those immediately to the east of it, leaving the pike itself for Kuiper's division.

2. Knipe's division will move, by the nearest road, to the Franklin pike, and press the enemy on that road and any that may be found on its immediate right.

3. Hatch's division will follow the enemy, on this road, to Brentwood, and press the enemy closely on the right of the Franklin pike. It may not be necessary to strike Brentwood at all, if roads can be found between the Hillsborough and Franklin pikes. General Hatch will use his discretion.

4. General Johnson will march, in pursuance of instructions last night, by the Hillsborough pike.

5. Cavalry Corps headquarters will be with the Fifth Division. Frequent communications must be sent in by the various columns.

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL.
FIELD ORDERS,
No. 4.*

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Johnson's House, December 17, 1864.

I. Commanding officers will be very active to-night and early to-morrow in obtaining forage, and will see that every horse is well fed.

II. The corps will be assembled in the following order to-morrow: Johnson's division, with one regiment on Carter's Creek, the balance connecting with the Seventh Division, General Knipe, on the West Harpeth River. The Seventh Division will be on the right side of the Columbia pike. The Fifth Division will be on the left of the Columbia pike, its right resting on the left of the Seventh Division. General Croxton's brigade will be on the Lewisburg pike. When this disposition is effected, at 6.30 a. m. to-morrow the command will move forward in that order.

III. Commanders of divisions and detached brigades will detail a suitable officer from their respective commands to report to these headquarters as aides to the general commanding.

IV. Commanding officers will take measures to bring forward supplies of ordnance, and such other supplies as they may need.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

MRS. OWEN'S HOUSE,

Wilson Pike, Four Miles and a Half South of Brentwood,

[December 17], 1864—9.30 a. m.

[General WILSON:]

GENERAL: I am at this point, with my advance two miles farther. Have sent scout to Nolensville pike, and will not move farther until I hear from it. Have captured about fifty prisoners. No considerable force moved by this road. Forrest reported to be on my left. Will the infantry follow me on this road? I am two miles and a half from the Franklin pike.

Respectfully, yours,

JOHN T. CROXTON,
Brigadier-General.

*Appears as No. 7 in order book.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Seven Miles from Franklin, December 17, 1861.

Brigadier-General CROXTON,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: Generals Hatch and Knipe are in Franklin. Push along as fast as possible by the road you fell back on when Hood advanced on Nashville. Cross the Harpeth River and endeavor to strike the enemy's flank on the Lewisburg pike. Watch well your left. If possible, send a small force through to communicate with the garrison at Marreesborough, to inform them what has taken place. Keep us well informed of your progress. Orders will be sent you when you reach the Lewisburg pike, or are near it.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Douglass Church, December 17, 1861—7 p. m.

Major BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I am four miles south of Franklin, on the Lewisburg pike. Have sent down three miles farther. Nothing passed on this road save stragglers and about two regiments cavalry. Sent within two miles of Peytonsville and found no force. Have taken to-day 130 prisoners. Had to swim Harpeth. Sent my artillery via Franklin. Actions out to night. Shall I order up my supply train, or will it be one?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. CROXTON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

NICHOLS' HOUSE, December 17, 1861.

Capt. ROBERT LE ROY,
Asst. Adj. Gen., First Cav. Div., Dept. of the Cumberland:

CAPTAIN: I have reliable information that Lyon, with a considerable body of men, crossed the Tradewater River at White's old mill about 10 o'clock this morning. He had one piece of artillery, a caisson, and three or four wagons loaded with goods, and burned the bridge immediately after crossing. Several wagons that came from the direction of Princeton after the bridge was burned went up the river to cross at a ford. The river is hardly fordable at White's Mill, but I think we can swim it. My scouts are out. If they bring information I will send it. My impression is that Lyon wishes to spend a few days among his fair friends in Union County. Unless otherwise ordered, I shall march to the mill at daylight, following the train, and try to cross.

Very respectfully,

O. B. LA GRANGE.

HIGGS, SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
Louisville, Ky., December 17, 1861.

Captain SCOTT,

Actg. Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division Cavalry;

SIR: I have to report, for the information of the general commanding, that a citizen from the Newburg road came in last night and reported that a party of fifteen guerrillas were pillaging the country three miles from here, and had murdered a citizen named Walther. I immediately sent a lieutenant and twenty five men of Fourth Michigan, with orders to kill. On their return to camp I will report further.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. G. MINTY,

HIGGS, SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
Louisville, Ky., December 17, 1861.

Captain SCOTT,

Actg. Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division Cavalry;

SIR: The scout which I sent out last night, as reported this a. m., has returned. It went as far as Brunnerstown, about twelve miles out. The guerrillas had passed through that place, and had been fired upon by the citizens, and two Kentucky soldiers, whom they held as prisoners, were shot. The last heard of the guerrillas they were ten miles from Brunnerstown.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. G. MINTY,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

CAIRO, December 17, 1861.

Major-General WILSON,

Commanding Cavalry Corps;

Found Winslow's command here—part was ordered to Paducah, by General Meredith; part to Memphis, by General Washburn. Have sent all to Louisville. Telegraph latest orders to Memphis.

R. UPTON.

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Franklin, December 17, 1861—1 p. m.

General JOHNSON,

Commanding Sixth Division;

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to move on the road you are now on until dark; encamp, and communicate with him by a staff officer. Kulpa is moving on the Columbia pike, and Hetal parallel to it, on the left.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

DECHERD, *December 17, 1861.*General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

James A. Moore, of General Rousseau's headquarters, and known to Major Polk, assistant adjutant-general, reports to me to-night that Breckinridge passed Woodbury, twenty-one miles southeast of Murfreesborough, on the 13th, with cavalry, artillery, and infantry, estimated at 10,000, going toward Murfreesborough. Heavy firing heard to-day at Duck River, in direction of latter place. All quiet here.

WILLARD WARNER,
Colonel 180th Ohio, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Hate's House, Grange White Pike, December 17, 1861—8.30 a. m.

Major-General ROUSSEAU,
Murfreesborough:

The major-general commanding directs the new regiments recently sent to Murfreesborough, and not a portion of the permanent garrison, be prepared to join the Fourth and Twenty-third Army Corps, according to the assignments made, which will be designated in a future order, when they shall be directed to march. They can now be got ready to obey such order as soon as given by the major-general commanding. In the operations of the 15th and 16th our forces have been signally successful in driving the enemy from every position he has taken, and, very fortunately for us, with but little comparative loss on our side. Our captures for both days' operations sum up as follows: Three brigadier-generals and a large number of prisoners, about 4,000; between 40 and 50 pieces of artillery; and a vast number of small-arms, thrown away by the enemy in his precipitate retreat. The pursuit will be continued this morning, and the enemy will be closely pressed at all points. Orders will be given to the railroad construction parties to repair the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad in the shortest possible time, and restore our communication by rail to all points on our lines.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Franklin, December 17, 1861.

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,
Stevenson:

The major-general commanding directs that you immediately reoccupy the railroad as far as Decatur, throwing supplies into Decatur by means of steam-boats. The rebel army is in full retreat down the Columbia pike, much demoralized. We have captured Ned Johnson's entire division, including himself, also Hate's division, and broken up Stevenson's division.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Granny White Pike, December 17, 1861.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. MILLER,
Commanding Post of Nashville:

GENERAL: The major general commanding directs that you send a regiment over the field of yesterday to bury the dead, collect the artillery, small arms, and other material captured from the enemy. Teams sufficient to haul twenty-three pieces of artillery will be required, that being the number captured yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CLARKSVILLE, December 17, 1861—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I sent a force to prevent Lyon from crossing between this and Donelson this morning. They report Lyon retreating toward Canton.

A. A. SMITH,
Commanding.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 17, 1861—5.30 p. m.

Maj. THOMAS T. ECKERT:

Following just passed here to General Thomas, dated near Kingsport, Tenn., 15th, via Cumberland Gap 17th:

Left Knoxville 10th; overtook Duke's (formerly Morgan's) command yesterday; drove him across Hobbs; attacked, captured, and killed nearly the whole command, taking whole wagon train. Colored Morgan (John's brother) among prisoners. We are now moving to Bristol, where we hope to treat Vaughn in the same manner.

GEO. STONEMAN,
Major-General.

Some of Breckinridge's orders captured, which say orders from Richmond direct all lead and ammunition must be hunted up and sent to Ordnance Department, and guns fired for cleaning must have ball extracted first to save it; also directs utmost economy in forage, it being equally scarce. A reliable report to commander at DeClard, 16th, says Breckinridge passed Woodbury, twenty-one miles east of Murfreesborough, on the 15th, with artillery and infantry, estimated at 10,000, going toward Murfreesborough. Heavy firing heard yesterday in direction of Murfreesborough, from Duck River, by our men.

S. BRUCH,
Captain, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Military Telegraph.

KNOXVILLE, December 17, 1861.

Capt. HENRY A. FORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Thank you for your dispatch. Breckinridge was certainly at Strawberry Plains, Tenn., 10th of November, and afterward fell back toward

Virginia. His force cannot have passed through East and Middle Tennessee since that time, or through the mountains of Kentucky. We could not have failed to hear and know of such movement here. Breckinridge himself may be at Murfreesborough, but it seems impossible that it should be with the force he had in East Tennessee.

DAVIS TILLSON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

PADUCAH, KY., December 17, 1861.

Capt. J. BATES DICKSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Lexington, Ky.:

CAPTAIN: General Thomas has placed at my disposal four regiments of infantry, and ordered me to move against Lyon when he was at Danville crossing. I have telegraphed him for the use of cavalry to enable me to do so. Three regiments have arrived here, and when I assume the offensive I will not withdraw any of the present garrison from the posts in this district. Lyon's headquarters are at Princeton, and his men are scattered all over the country, robbing and conscripting. There is no force of ours after Lyon. General Thomas requests me to move upon him.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

PADUCAH, December 17, 1861.
(Received 12 m.)

Col. E. T. SPRAGUE:

COLONEL: Send on all troops, quick as you can, from Cairo, both cavalry and infantry.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

DECEMBER 17, 1861.

The cavalry is now embarking for Louisville, by order of Major-General Upton, who is here direct from General Thomas. I will forward the infantry as fast as it arrives.

E. T. SPRAGUE,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

SMITHLAND, December 17, 1861.

Capt. JAMES GRAHAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet here. A number of citizens from Eddyville and Dycusburg arrived during the night, some of whom escaped after being conscripted. From all the information that I can get Lyon has his force divided in small squads. One squad was near Marion yesterday. The parties that were on this side of the river have recrossed. Captain Flye, with the Lexington, was to open on Eddyville and Dycusburg this a. m. if he sees any of them in these places. The river is now being patrolled with gun-boats from here to Clarksville.

Very respectfully,

HENRY P. REED,
Captain

SMITHLAND, *December 1, 1864—8 p. m.*

Capt. JAMES GRAHAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General;

Six men have just arrived from Princeton this 8 p. m. They were conscripted and furloughed until Monday. General Lyon is there with 400 men and one piece of artillery. He burned the court house yesterday.

H. P. REED,
Commanding Post.

FRANKFORT, KY., *December 17, 1864.*

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General;

Nothing from Bridgewater since my last report. His instructions were to follow the guerrillas until they were captured or killed. Information sent Bridgewater through the different stations on the railroad of movements of troops from Lexington and Ohio River, as mentioned in your communication.

D. W. LINDSEY,
Inspector and Adjutant-General.

LEXINGTON, KY., *December 17, 1864.*

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Burkesville, Ky.:

Take the boats of the pontoon bridge out on north side of river, concealing them as well as possible, and take a plank out of the bottom of each boat and hide the plank by burying some distance from river. After the bridge and boats are rendered useless without the planks, all members of Thirteenth Kentucky Cavalry will go to Camp Nelson to be mustered out. Let no citizen and no more soldiers than possible know where the planks are buried, but make yourself a memorandum, so they can be found when needed, and send it here.

By order of Brig. Gen. N. C. McLean:

J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PRIVATE.] HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 17, 1864.

Hon. HENRY WILSON,
U. S. Senate:

In my letter of the 8th instant I made no allusion to the case of Major General Meade. It is one more illustrative of the manner in which promotions are recommended in the army than either of the others I have referred to.

As early as December 1, 1863, the day of the battle of Mine Run the authorities at Washington had his removal from the command of the Army of the Potomac in serious contemplation, and soon after was informed reliably that it was the desire of the President and the Secretary of War that I should be restored to that position. I am reliably, for I have letters in my possession to this effect, which would

have no doubt on your mind, could I be allowed to present them to you; besides, I received advices from friends in confirmation of what I state and also in confirmation of the fact that it was freely talked of by those officials. The newspapers also announced it, and I may add that the announcement gave great satisfaction in the Army of the Potomac. The change was not made, and now, after the lapse of a year, I am recommended for a major-generalcy over my head in the regular army. I should add further in regard to General Meade, that it is well known that he has been retained in position for several months by the politicians of Pennsylvania, they making his retention a condition to their support of Mr. Lincoln for re-election; that officer in the meantime having rendered no especial service, and his continuance in position being a serious detriment to the public good. You doubtless are as fully informed of the estimation in which he is held in the Army of the Potomac as I am. You also know of the condition of that army now, and that it has been for some months past. I may also state in this connection that I was made a brigadier-general on the day of the battle of Antietam under circumstances, I believe, without a parallel. It was long on the application of George B. McClellan, then a bitter enemy, stating that it was the desire of the officers of that army that I should be promoted to that position. I think General Meade's date is about the time of the battle of Gettysburg; and who will attempt to institute a comparison of our services since? The Secretary of War will assure you that I saved the Army of the Cumberland last fall, and this spring, in the advance on Atlanta, the losses in killed and wounded in my corps were nearly one-half of those of the armies of which Sherman's force was composed; and they were no unnecessary losses resulting from unskillful maneuvering for battles, or rashness in fighting them. It is enough to say that on that brief campaign I won the hearts of the army I was serving with and the hearts of the West. I dislike to speak of myself in the measure I am doing, and only indulge in it for the reason that I have a greater dislike to being disgraced. For several months the appointment of General Meade to a major-generalcy was kept a profound secret, and when announced by the public prints, it was accompanied with the statement that it had been done at the request of the lieutenant general. Acts of this character must inspire conscious shame and a desire to avoid the responsibility of them. Would it not be far better to put military commissions in the market, and dispose of them at public auction as any other commodity?

In the face of facts like these one may well tremble with fear in serving an administration which is the representative of the nation in its conflict with treason. In view of all that is passing one may well pause and inquire if it is not a crime to be loyal. You know, Senator—all know—that I have devoted every energy of my soul and body from the beginning of our troubles; that I have been absorbed in the magnitude of our cause morally and politically, and have only prayed that more valor and wisdom might be given me, in order that I could render greater service, and to-day I am compelled by honor and duty to invoke your aid in keeping me from being disgraced.

All officers have been called upon to place on record in the Adjutant-General's Office a statement of the services they have rendered in the rebellion. I forwarded mine, to include the year 1863, and let me advise you before acting on the nominations I have referred to, to request that it be laid before the Military Committee. I have made another effort to appear before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, but the result I have not yet learned. If General Halleck can prevent it, he

will. Should I be allowed to go to Washington I shall have no fears of falling a victim to conspiracies which are the offspring of envy and jealousy. It is from these unworthy feelings I am not permitted to go in sight of my army in the field at this time, and, if it can be prevented, I shall not be allowed to the end of the chapter; and yet there is no army that would not welcome my return with enthusiasm such as has not been seen or known in this war. I know the feelings of the armies I have served with, and I know of what I am writing.

I shall request the Senators from the Pacific Coast to watch my interest in the Senate, for they are really the only members of the Senate on whom I feel that I have claims for protection. I have marked my letters private, but this I trust will not prevent your showing them to my friends, should you be disposed to do so. Hurriedly as I have had to write, I should like especially for Mr. Fessenden and Senators Wade and Chandler to read them, if they will do me that favor. I declined the tender of Mr. Fessenden's services while I was master of my sword, but now that I am disarmed, I am constrained to accept.

In reviewing my letter it may be inferred that it was only on one occasion that I was informed that it was the wish of His Excellency the President and of the Secretary of War to relieve General Meade and place me in command of the Army of the Potomac, but almost every month from December to July reports to this effect reached me, and yet it was not done. What power there was behind the throne greater than the throne itself I am not advised. I only know it was not done, and now it is proposed, by the same influence, I suppose, to promote General Meade over my head, and these same authorities appear to have given it their approval. Yesterday General Meade was not fitted for the place he holds, and I was; to-day he was promoted over my head, with no additional service except that of exploding the mine near Petersburg, which matter has been investigated, but the result not made known. Who was at fault?

Excusing myself, as I certainly do, for consuming so much of your time with what relates to myself, and hoping that I may soon have an opportunity to make my acknowledgments to you in person for your many, many kindnesses, I have the honor to remain your friend and servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[DECEMBER 18, 1864.—For Grant to Sherman, referring to Thomas' operations, see Vol. XLIV, p. 740.]

WASHINGTON CITY, December 18, 1864—12.30 p. m.
Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

The armies operating against Richmond have fired 200 guns in honor of your great victory. Sherman has fully established his base on Osoabaw Sound, with Savannah fully invested. I hope to be able to fire a salute to-morrow in honor of the fall of Savannah. In all your operations we hear nothing of Forrest. Great precautions should be taken to prevent him crossing the Cumberland or Tennessee below Eastport. After Hood is driven as far as it is possible to follow him you want to reoccupy Decatur and all other abandoned points.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 18, 1861—11 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
 Washington :

Yours of 12.20 p. m. to-day received. I have already given orders to have Decatur occupied, and also to throw a strong column on the south side of the Tennessee toward Tusculum, for the purpose of capturing Hood's depot there, if possible, and gaining possession of his pontoon bridge. I have also requested Admiral Lee to go up the Tennessee River with a fleet of gun-boats, which he has promised to do, and his vessels are no doubt already on the way. General Wilson informed me to-day that prisoners taken yesterday by him told him that Forrest, Jackson, and another division left Murfreesborough on Thursday for Columbia direct, and that Buford with another division left Murfreesborough the same day and marched continuously until he reached Spring Hill, where he assumed the duties of rear guard to the rebel army. I hope you will be able to fire a salute to-morrow in honor of the capture of Savannah.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, Tenn., December 18, 1861—7.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLISEY,
 Washington, D. C. :

The enemy have been vigorously pursued to-day, but have studiously avoided any attack by my troops. I have succeeded in taking a few prisoners, some 200 or 300, but our captures are light in comparison with the successes of the past few days. The pursuit will be continued in the morning at as early an hour as the troops can march. The following copies of orders, found in Breckinridge's camp in East Tennessee, are transmitted for your information :

(GENERAL ORDERS.) HIGHER DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA AND EAST TENNESSEE,
 No. 27. *Wytheville, Pa., December 2, 1861.*

In accordance with orders received from the Ordnance Department at Richmond that it has become of vital importance to husband small arms ammunition and lead, the order is published that all lead which can be gleaned from battle-fields, or otherwise obtained, will be collected by the brigade ordnance officer, and to be sent to the nearest arsenal or ordnance depot. Whenever guns are to be relieved of their loads the balls should be drawn, if practicable; otherwise, the loads should be discharged into boxes of sand or dirt, so that the lead may be recovered and turned into the ordnance department. The attention of the commanding officers is called to the necessity giving rise to this order, and its rigid enforcement is strictly enjoined.

By command of Major-General Breckinridge:

J. STODDARD JOHNSTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HIGHER DEPT. OF WEST VIRGINIA AND EAST TENNESSEE,
Wytheville, Pa., December 2, 1861.

The attention of commanding officers is called to the scarcity of forage in this department, and the absolute necessity of economy in its consumption. Evidence of its waste have been observed heretofore. The proper officers must, in all cases, superintend the issue of forage, and commanding officers and every company officer must give his strict personal attention.

By command of Major-General Breckinridge:

W. B. MYERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have found the railroad, thus far, but little disturbed, and my trains will be up by railroad in a day or two at the furthest. The telegraph is up with me now. I find, upon receiving more correct reports

of the operations of the 16th instant, that Maj. Gen. Ed. Johnson's entire division, with all the brigade commanders, was captured in the works which were carried by assault, besides destroying a brigade of the enemy's cavalry and capturing its commander, Brigadier-General Rucker. Among the captures made to-day are the rebel Brigadier-General Quarles, wounded, and a number of other rebels, also wounded, lying in the houses by the roadside, unable to get away.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Franklin, December 18, 1861—9 a. m. (Via Wheeling, Va.)

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN,
Headquarters Army of the Shenandoah:

Your telegram of the 17th is just received. Accept my sincere thanks for your very kind congratulations. This army sends greetings to the Army of the Shenandoah. Our operations yesterday were nearly equal to those of the 15th and 16th instant. We captured three pieces of artillery yesterday and a number of prisoners, and had not night settled would have secured almost the entire rear guard of the enemy consisting of Stevenson's division of infantry and a brigade of cavalry all of which ran like a flock of sheep. On the 16th we captured the entire division of Maj. Gen. Ed. Johnson, and all his brigade commanders, in their works, which were carried by assault, besides destroying one brigade of cavalry, capturing its commander, Brigadier-General Rucker.

Yours, sincerely,

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Commanding.

WASHINGTON, December 18, 1861—12.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

All officers and detachments absent from General Sherman's army and not on duty with you, will immediately join their respective commands, near Savannah, via New York. The quartermaster at New York will furnish transportation. Officers and detachments belonging to the same army now serving with you will join General Sherman the same way as relieved. Those who have less than three months' service will be relieved by you, and be organized provisionally, or be attached to other organizations. Orders will be sent by mail. Please acknowledge receipt of this telegram.

By order of the Secretary of War:

S. F. CHALFIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 18, 1861

Maj. S. F. CHALFIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington:

Your dispatch ordering men of General Sherman's army to join received.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 18, 1861.

Maj. Gen. M. O. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

We open the Cumberland to-day. Transports here have left under convoy of the gun-boats. We captured yesterday 450 prisoners and 5 flags. We have taken in all over 5,000 prisoners, among whom are Major-General Johnson and Brigadier-Generals Jackson and Smith, and over 250 commissioned officers. Besides, Hood has lost most of his artillery, over 40 pieces already reported, and his army is terribly shattered. He will be fortunate to reach the Tennessee River with half his original force. In his order of battle General Thomas assigned the Quartermaster's Department an important position on interior line of works, and we held the same three days and two nights, thus enabling the general to take a considerably larger force into the field. I withdrew the men yesterday, and now the department is doing all it can to sustain the army in pursuing the enemy, giving up most of the transportation of the department for that purpose.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, December 18, 1861—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Cumberland, Nashville:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that he desires you to send a party to Franklin as soon as possible, to construct a permanent road bridge at the point originally used for such bridge, which has been for some time destroyed.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,
ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 18, 1861.

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your telegram received. Say to the major-general commanding that the bridge at Franklin has already been provided for. Working party will leave here to-night or early in the morning. Thanks for information as to your movements. Please keep me advised.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, December 18, 1861—9 p. m.

Col. J. G. PARKHURST,
Provost-Marshal-General, Dept. of the Cumberland, Nashville:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that he desires you to repair as soon as possible to Franklin, Tenn., and register the names of the rebel wounded and attendants left at that place by the enemy,

and also to make preparations for their speedy removal to the rebel hospital at Nashville. There are also a number of rebel wounded, including the rebel Brigadier-General Quarles, in houses on the road between Franklin and Spring Hill; these are also to be registered and sent to Nashville as rapidly as possible.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 18, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. D. C. McCALLUM,

Superintendent of Military Railroads:

Everything is working well. Will have the railroad open to-night to Franklin, and we will follow General Thomas as fast as possible. I have parties working on the back end of the break on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, and will have it opened in a few days. There is a very large amount of work blocked out for us ahead.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

December 18, 1864.

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,

*Chief Engineer U. S. Military Railroads,
Military Division of the Mississippi:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you immediately proceed to put the railroads of the military division in running order; and to do this you are authorized during the present emergency to appropriate any timber which may be necessary for making ties or bridge timber that may be standing near the lines of roads you are requested to repair. When the emergency is passed and the roads repaired you will procure your ties and timber by contract as heretofore.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 18, 1864.*

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

General Rousseau commands at Murfreesborough, with 6,000 at least. He reports Forrest killed and 1,500 of his men captured. Colonel Warner, commanding at Decherd, reports that Breckinridge crossed the Chattanooga railroad, ten miles south of Murfreesborough, Friday, 10,000 strong, pushing forward to join Hood. General Thomas knows.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

In the Field, December 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

GENERAL: My troops are encamped three and a half miles from Rutherford's Creek and about seven miles from Columbia, being about one mile and a half in advance of the cavalry. The troops had

a hard march to-day, but the greater part of them were in camp by dark. It is probable that we will have some trouble in crossing Rutherford's Creek, and we may have to build a bridge over it. By all means the pontoon train should be hurried up for the crossing of Duck River. Have you any special orders for me to-morrow?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, December 18, 1861—12 m.

Brig. Gen. TH. J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor, by direction of the major-general commanding, to acknowledge the receipt of your report of 9 p. m. this day, and, in reply, to state that the pontoon train has been ordered forward as rapidly as possible, and should be here to-night. There are no further orders than those sent you last evening, viz: to continue the pursuit of the enemy to-morrow morning, marching at about 8 o'clock.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSLEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Widow Sayers', December 18, 1861—2 p. m.

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have halted my command at this place, about two miles from Spring Hill, to feed, issue rations, &c. I am informed that the enemy has two pontoon bridges across the Duck River near the old wagon bridge. A little girl, who has just arrived from Tusculum, which place she left three days ago, says she saw no troops at that place or this side. Prisoners say that Hood cannot get across the Tennessee River, as our forces at Memphis had repaired the railroad as far as La Grange, and were marching out to attack him in flank.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Spring Hill, December 18, 1861—3 p. m.

Major-General WILSON:

GENERAL: Your very satisfactory note of 2 p. m. has just been received. The head of my column is now in Spring Hill, and I will push on as far as I can to-night to keep well closed up. On account of the extreme heaviness of the road the men are very much jaded and are straggling some. Captain Stansbury informs me that you will probably leave the turnpike and go to the left; if you do so, please inform me, and certainly try to give me your position to-night, and I will, in return, communicate to you my position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

Franklin, Tenn., December 18, 1861—7.30 a. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Corps:

The bridge that Colonel Sumner has been building is just finished, and the corps will start at once—General Kimball's division will lead, followed by General Elliott's, then General Beatty's. Five ammunition wagons, ten ambulances, and one battery will follow each division. Immediately following the troops will follow the Artillery Brigade; then the ammunition trains, in the order in which the divisions march; then artillery ammunition trains; then the hospital trains; then corps headquarters train, followed by headquarters trains, in the order in which the divisions march; then regimental wagons.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. N. FULLERTON,

Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

*Three Miles and a Half North of Rutherford's Creek,**December 18, 1861—11.15 p. m.*

Orders of the day for the Fourth Corps for to-morrow, December 19, 1861:

The corps will march in pursuit of the enemy, starting at 8 a. m. and moving toward Columbia—the Second Division will lead, followed by the Third, then the First. Division trains will move in the order in which the divisions march, and in the same general order in which they moved to-day. The artillery of the command will also move as to-day.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. N. FULLERTON,

Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

In the Field, December 18, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Commanding Army of the Ohio:

GENERAL: The major general commanding the forces in the field directs that you detail a general officer, to proceed without delay to Murfreesborough, to take command of, and march to join the Twenty-third Army Corps, such regiments as are at that place which have been assigned to it. Major General Steedman, with his command, is now on his way from Franklin to Murfreesborough, with orders to turn over his transportation, upon his arrival, for the use of the portion of your command above referred to.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, December 18, 1861—7.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHÖFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you move your command, in its present order of march, in the morning of to-morrow (19th), in pursuit of the enemy, at about 8 o'clock.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Please send me the organization of new regiments assigned to your corps.

R. H. R.

(Same, excepting postscript, to Generals Wood and Smith.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Near Brentwood, Tenn., December 18, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to inform you that the command will march this morning on the Franklin pike, in the same order as yesterday, but that they will not march until rations are issued, and he desires the troops moved over to the Franklin pike to obtain their rations, or to have the trains taken over to them, which ever will be the easiest or most practicable.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General Couch.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Franklin, Tenn., December 18, 1861.

Brigadier-General COX:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you get your troops over the river, if you can get the bridge before dark, and camp on ground which will be pointed out to you by some officer from these headquarters. If you cannot get the bridge before dark select any convenient ground on the north side and camp, and be ready to move out at daylight to-morrow. He further directs that, in any event, you push all your supply and ammunition trains over to night, and park them on suitable ground beyond the town. His headquarters will be in the house near the river, on the pike, on the north bank.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CLINTON A. GILLEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 18, 1864—8 a. m.

[General WHIPPLE:]

Dispatch received. I have seventy or eighty wounded, scattered along the road, in houses. Please send ambulances for them at once.

J. H. WILSON,
Brerret Major-General

Some of our men captured last night have just come in, and report the enemy's rear guard strongly re-entranced.

J. H. W.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In sight of Spring Hill, Tenn., December 18, 1864—11 a. m.
Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Cumberland;

GENERAL: A prisoner just taken states that Forrest, with Jackson's division of cavalry and two brigades of infantry, left Murfreesborough day before yesterday for Columbia, where he may be today. Buford's division of cavalry left Murfreesborough the same day, and marched continuously until they struck this road, and have since been covering the rear of the infantry. Johnson is now engaging the enemy to the right of Spring Hill, and everything is pressing forward to his assistance. I will push them as rapidly as I can toward Columbia to-night, and then take the route as indicated by the major-general commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brerret Major-General, Commanding.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Eight Miles from Columbia, December 18, 1864—1 p. m.
Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland;

GENERAL: All our efforts to bring the rebels to a stand this morning have failed, though their alluring positions have carried us to this place. I have had to issue rations and ammunition, and will push on to Rally Hill as soon as possible. All indications are that the rebels have no intention of halting this side of Columbia. Lee's and Hood's headquarters were about Spring Hill last night; Cheatham's here. I am not entirely sure that we shall gain time by taking to the left, but we will do the best we can. If you have any further orders, please send them at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brerret Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Three Miles South of Spring Hill, December 18, 1864—2.50 p. m.
Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Cumberland;

GENERAL: After looking at the maps I am satisfied that we shall lose time if we pass to the eastward of the Franklin pike, as previous

directed. The rebels will most probably take the route via Mount Pleasant and Lawrenceburg to Florence—this distance is fifty-three miles; to go by Pulaski it is something over sixty miles; and all roads to the eastward are proportionally longer. It seems to me that our march should be by Williamsport, toward Eastport, crowding the enemy on that flank as much as possible. If it is intended to carry the pursuit beyond the Tennessee River, and gun boats can control it as far as Eastport, we could lay a bridge and cross the whole army there. Please advise me what course I shall pursue.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

In the Field, December 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you press directly after the enemy to-morrow, and await the developments of another day before deciding upon your future route. You are authorized to send to Nashville to be remounted such portions of your command as are now without horses.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

In the Field, December 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you concentrate the Fourth Ohio Cavalry, now packeting the river to Carthage, at Nashville, and direct it to there await the arrival of the division to which it belongs. Upon the arrival of the division at Nashville he wishes you to order it to join you as rapidly as possible without making forced marches, as he has important work marked out for it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.]

HQs. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,

Mrs. Sagers' House, December 18, 1864—1 p. m.

The Cavalry Corps will halt. Division commanders and commanders of independent brigades will take prompt measures to issue three days' rations and all the ammunition possible to the men, as the command will leave the turnpike this afternoon. Commanders will see that every horse is fed and groomed at once.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 5,* } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 18, 1861.

II. Commanders of divisions and independent brigades will send to these headquarters, by 10 o'clock this p. m., an approximate report of the effective force and a report of casualties since leaving Nashville.

III. The commanding officer of the Fourth Ohio Cavalry will concentrate his regiment at Nashville, prepare it for the field, and join his division upon its arrival at that place.

IV. The Second Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, Brigadier-General Long commanding, will at once proceed to join the Cavalry Corps in the field. The division will march as rapidly as possible without making forced marches.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BRAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HUGHES, FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 18, 1861.

Lieut. Col. A. J. ALEXANDER:

SIR: In obedience to Special Field Orders, No. 5, from headquarters Cavalry Corps, I have the honor to submit the following report of effective strength of this command and regimental casualties since leaving Nashville.

Commissioned officers present, including field and staff of brigade and regiments and regimental line officers, 70; enlisted men, 1,450; total, 1,520.

Casualties: Wounded (slight), 6.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. T. CRONIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

AT THE BRIDGE NEAR WHITE'S MILL,
December 18, 1861—1.30 a. m.

Capt. ROBERT LE ROY,

Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I will have a foot bridge ready by daylight. The timbers of the bridge are only partially destroyed. My ambulances will come back to you; they cannot cross here. I will follow Lyon as rapidly as possible, and make him a good fight, if I catch him. The turn to Wilson's Bridge is three or four miles from here. Where shall I send my next?

O. H. LA GRANGE,
Colonel.

P. S.—I see no rebel picket near the river. They inquired for Providence.

*Appears as No. 8 in order book.

Capt. ROBERT LE ROY,

Assistant Adjutant General, First Cavalry Division:

I think I will try to build a foot bridge and swim my horses; it will be quicker and will surprise the rebels; besides, they may have burned the other bridge. I will send you word as soon as I can see the ground in the morning.

Respectfully,

LA GRANGE,
Colonel,

P. S.—Lyon has a strong picket at the burnt bridge.

CROSS-ROADS NEAR PRINCETON, KY.,
December 18, 1864.

Col. O. H. LA GRANGE:

The general commanding directs me to say that he is under the impression that General Lyon will endeavor to get back where he crossed, Petersburg or Gordonsville, and perhaps through Hopkinsville, to the mouth of Yellow Creek. If he takes a different course you have a sufficient force to follow him and defeat him. If he takes the road that I anticipate he will, I can intercept him near Hopkinsville. Communications from you will reach me at that point, or on the road between here and there. If Lyon scatters his command to such an extent that it would be impracticable and unpardonable to pursue him, you will return to Hopkinsville with your command. As to the propriety of this you must be the judge. I send an intelligent guide, Dr. Henry Bell, to you, who is familiar with all that country. The general will expect to hear from you as soon as possible and as often as you deem necessary. If the movement of the enemy renders it necessary to leave Hopkinsville to intercept him, he will leave dispatches for you indicating his route.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT LE ROY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Between Nashville and Gallatin, Tenn., December 18, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant General, Cavalry Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that we learn from refugees just from the Hermitage that the force of cavalry and artillery stationed there a few days past has gone in the direction of Nashville. The rebel pickets in view on the opposite side of the river have entirely disappeared, and refugees report no rebels above the mouth of Stone's River. Everything quiet in this vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. DOBB,
Major, Commanding Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 18, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. B. STEEDMAN,
Commanding District of the Fourth, in the Field;

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the department directs that you march with your command to Murfreesborough, moving by the most direct road. Upon your arrival at Murfreesborough you will turn in your transportation, for the use of regiments of the Twenty-third Army Corps which are to march from there to join their corps, under command of Brigadier-General Ruger. You will also without delay, after your arrival at Murfreesborough, procure from the south sufficient cars to move your command to Decatur, where you will next proceed, and to which place Brig. Gen. R. S. Granger has been ordered with his command, with directions to throw into that place, by steamboat, an abundance of provisions. General Granger will re-enforce your command with as many troops as he can spare from the garrison of Decatur, retaining only sufficient to hold the place against such small force as the enemy may possibly, but not probably, send against it. You will then, with your increased force, proceed to Tusculum and destroy the rebel bridges over the Tennessee at that place. Before moving from Murfreesborough you will order Col. William J. Palmer, commanding Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, to join you at such place as you may designate, and on your way to Decatur collect with your force such other cavalry as you may find, including that with General Granger. You will also order from Chattanooga the transportation belonging to your command, to move you from Decatur to Tusculum.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

STILLMAN, December 18, 1861.

Brigadier-General MEACHAM:

The following telegram has just been received:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
*From Knoxville, Tenn., December 17, 1861—2 A. M.**

The major-general commanding directs that you immediately occupy Decatur road as far as Decatur, carrying supplies into the city by means of steam-boats. The rebel army now in full retreat down the Columbia pike, now fully demoralized. We have captured Ned Johnson's entire division, including himself, also Bates' division, and broken up Stevenson's division.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

I have but 1,400 infantry and 500 cavalry to carry out this order, which contemplates garrisoning the road and Decatur. Decatur is garrisoned by Roddey's command—1,000, 1,500, or possibly 2,000 men, with six pieces of artillery. My force, you will see, therefore, is very small to carry out effectually this order. Can you give me any assistance? Six hundred or 800 men, I think, could be made to answer. I cannot have but 1,000 men with which to attack Decatur, without your assistance.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

* Recorded in Thomas' "telegrams sent" book under date of December 17. See p. 243.

STEVENSON, *December 18, 1861—6.30 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS:

Dispatch of 2 a. m. received. Will immediately set about putting it in execution. Have for the work 1,400 infantry and 500 cavalry. Roddey with his command occupy Decatur; has six pieces of artillery. Does your order mean to attack Decatur? I cannot possibly have more than 1,000 men to do it, but will try it, if you say so. Roddey will have quite as many men, and probably twice as many inside.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 18, 1861.

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,

Stevenson:

Yours received. Move us far as you can toward Decatur and open railroad for General Sherman, who is going to same point, and who, when he joins you, will resume direction of affairs.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *December 18, 1861.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,

Commanding, Stevenson:

General Meagher has ordered 800 men from Bridgeport to you. Captain Forrest has been requested, in the name of General Thomas, to co-operate with you. Transports will be at once sent to Bridgeport, there to load with rations as ordered by General Thomas. Do you prefer Caperton's Ferry to Bridgeport? The order is given for Bridgeport, unless you designate the other point.

SOUTHARD HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 18, 1861.

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,

Commanding Department of Northern Alabama:

GENERAL: Major-General Steedman, commanding District of the Etowah, has been ordered to effect the destruction of the rebel bridges at Tusculum, and the major-general commanding the department desires that you will co-operate with him in this move by re-enforcing him with all the troops you can spare from the garrison of Decatur, and by throwing supplies into Decatur by steam-boat from Chattanooga. It will probably require but a very small force to defend Decatur against any force the enemy will be able to send against it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Columbia, December 18, 1861.

COL. WILLIAM J. FRYMAN,

Commanding Fifth-tenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Wauhatchie;

Reported that General Thomas has again defeated Hood, with a loss of 7,000 prisoners and 30 guns. The news comes from Nashville, but not officially.

SOUTHEARD HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 18, 1861.*

CAPT. H. M. CORY,

General Thomas' Headquarters.

In obedience to your telegram to General Miller, I have directed Colonel Matheis to proceed with the seventy-fifth Pennsylvania to Franklin, to occupy its old post there and in block houses. The one hundred and seventy-fifth have occupied some of the block houses this side of Columbia.

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, *December 18, 1861.*

Brigadier-General WHITFIELD:

Captain Laporte, new staff sergeant-major at Murfreesborough, is here with twenty wagons loaded with forage. Will it be safe for him to go through to that place with a guard of sixty men?

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 18, 1861.

MAJ. B. H. POLK,

Assistant Adjutant General, Nashville.

Yours received. General Sherman leaves Franklin for Murfreesborough with command tomorrow morning. Captain Laporte, with train, can go under his charge.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Regimental Quartermaster and Chief of Staff.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN., *December 19, 1861—1 p. m.*
(Received 11:30 p. m.)

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

The active naval patrol of the Mississippi, preventing the rebel armies west of that river from crossing to join Hood, as required by Jeff. Davis, must have had an influential bearing on the successful result of

this campaign. If Lyon's mounted troops have not recrossed the Cumberland during the late thick fog, they will be captured. The country people along this river confidently expected Hood to drive the Union forces out of Tennessee and Kentucky. The great disappointment at General Thomas' victories will probably cause the Kentuckians, Tennesseans, and North Alabamians to desert and disperse Hood's command. I shall immediately shift sufficient force to destroy Hood's pontoons at Duck River and Florence, and cut off Hood and Lyon's retreat, if stage of water in the Tennessee is sufficient. A full report of successful naval operations on this river will be sent—made as soon as detailed reports are received.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

CLARKSVILLE, December 18, 1861—11 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your telegram 9.15 yesterday received at 10.30 to-day, with a copy of your highly interesting telegraphic report to General Halleck of yesterday 8 p. m., for which please accept my thanks, with congratulations on the additional important successes in your department.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding.

CLARKSVILLE, December 18, 1861—1.15 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

I thank you for informing me that Hood has a pontoon bridge at Florence and is reported building one at mouth of Duck River. I will ascertain, as soon as the existing fog on this river allows us to push a suitable naval force up the Tennessee River, if there be water enough in that river, under Lieutenant Corner, to destroy these bridges and cut off Hood's retreat, and prevent Lyon recrossing Tennessee River, should he now recross the Cumberland under cover of the fog.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Near Spring Hill, December 18, 1861—7 p. m.

Admiral S. P. LEE,

Clarksville:

Your dispatches of 11 a. m. and 1.15 p. m. are received. I am hopeful that the expedition up the Tennessee River of the iron chuds and gun-boats will be able to reach Florence within six days from the present time, as that will be just about the right time. I shall be much obliged if, in addition to the movement on the Tennessee River mentioned above, you will be as well prepared as possible to convoy either from Johnsonville or Clifton a fleet of transports with troops up the Tennessee River to Florence. I speak of this simply that you might be prepared in case I make the request. Your telegram of 6.20 p. m. [17th] is just received.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Chattanooga, December 18, 1864.

Commander FORREST,

Commanding U. S. Naval Forces, Newburyport:

Major-General Thomas has ordered General Grainger to occupy Decatur and the Decatur road. This is to prevent any attempt on the part of Hood to cross at that point. Your fleet will be most effective in preventing any crossing at that point. I therefore, in the name of General Thomas, beg your earnest co-operation with General Grainger.

ROBERT HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 18, 1864. (Received 19th.)

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH:

Yours of this day received.* The major-general commanding thinks it too late now for you to attempt to prevent Lyon crossing the Cumberland. McCook's division of cavalry is after him, and will be sufficient. Send the infantry up the Cumberland River to Nashville as quickly as possible.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEXINGTON, *December 18, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH,

Paducah, Ky.:

When do you move? Please advise me fully.

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEXINGTON, KY., *December 18, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. EWING,

Louisville, Ky.:

General Meredith telegraphs he is about to resume the offensive against Lyon with troops furnished him by Major-General Thomas. He reports Lyon's headquarters at Princeton, and his men scattered over the country in that vicinity.

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 19, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

Hon. B. M. STANTON,

Secretary of War, Washington:

On reflection, I think it would have a good effect to allow Sherman's letter to General Halleck,† except such facts as refer to future movements, to be published. It is refreshing to see a commander after campaign of more than seven months' duration ready for still further operations, and without wanting any outfit or rest.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

* See 16th. n. 225.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, December 19, 1861—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

You will see by to-day's papers that Sherman's dispatch, omitting such portions as seemed proper to be left out, has already been published. One or two paragraphs more might have done good, but being doubtful on the point, they were skipped. The weather and rains will probably stop farther pursuit of Hood, but he will have a good time getting to some safe place. What about the major generalship; has it been won? I have directed a new draft for 300,000 men and will put on 200,000 more by the 1st of March, if there appears then to be a necessity.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., December 19, 1861—1.30 p. m.

Major-General LAMAR,
Louisville, Ky.:

The news from Thomas so far is in the highest degree gratifying. You need not go farther. Before starting to join Sherman report in Washington.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, December 19, 1861—8.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The infantry has not been able to march to-day, in consequence of the heavy rain which set in last night and has continued all the day, rendering all the streams impassable. The cavalry, however, was enabled to advance somewhat, driving the enemy whenever they came upon him without much difficulty. We have taken a few prisoners, who, with those taken yesterday, represent Hood's army in a greatly demoralized condition. The day has been profitably employed in concentrating and adjusting the trains of the different commands, issuing rations and ammunition, preparatory to marching early to-morrow morning. The railroad is repaired to the Harpeth bridge, at Franklin, and I hope to have the bridge finished to-morrow in time to have trains loaded with supplies close up to the army to-morrow night. I have a report from Murfreesborough up to noon of the 17th instant. General Rousseau has gallantly held that place against all the attacks of the enemy. I also have reports from other points along the line of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, and find the road has not been disturbed, except between La Vergne and Overall's Creek and for some miles south of Murfreesborough. But, with even three months' supplies in Chattanooga, no serious inconvenience would result to the troops there or along the line until the road shall be repaired. Both the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers are rising rapidly, and General Donaldson, chief quartermaster, has been ordered to resume shipments up the Cumberland at once.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, December 19, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

I will be in Nashville immediately, to take charge of your prisoners of war.

W. HOFFMAN,
Commissary General of Prisoners.

FRANKLIN, December 19, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Three trains just arrived with men and bridge timber to rebuild railroad bridge. General Schofield will have his men and most of his trains over the river to night.

Very respectfully,

J. P. WILLARD,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

NASHVILLE, December 19, 1864.

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have received your dispatch, and will leave for Franklin immediately.

J. G. PARKHURST,
Colonel and Provost Marshal-General.

FRANKLIN, December 19, 1864.

General WHIPPLE:

I reported here this evening, and will commence work in the morning.

J. G. PARKHURST,
Provost Marshal-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 19, 1864.

Col. J. G. PARKHURST,
Provost-Marshal-General, Department of the Cumberland:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding the department desires that you should keep as many scouts as possible around the flanks and in rear of the rebel army, for the purpose of ascertaining its condition, routes of march, and probable intentions. When the scouts have anything of importance to communicate to the major-general commanding, direct them to his headquarters before going to Nashville. General Miller has been directed to keep a line of duty messengers moving by railroad from his headquarters and from the terminus of the road near the army to these headquarters. Couriers will bring dispatches; therefore anything that you have to send out will be brought, if left at General Miller's assistant adjutant-general's office.

Very respectfully,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, December 19, 1864.

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The telegram concerning prisoners is received. Three thousand have already been sent North; 2,000 yet remain. I will hold them until further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. M. GOODWIN,
Captain and Assistant Provost-Marshal-General.

NASHVILLE, December 19, 1864.

Capt. ROBERT H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have sent parties to repair bridge at Franklin and intermediate points. Ten feet on Harpeth Shoals, and rising. The river is now open, and I hope to be in receipt of supplies soon. Fleet started down river yesterday.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

NASHVILLE, December 19, 1864.

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Steedman has taken the Seventeenth Colored Regiment to Murfreesborough, and I understand intended taking it to Tusculum. This regiment was given me for my necessary work here, and I would like it ordered back, as I need it.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
 December 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: Your three dispatches of this date are received. I am directed by the major-general commanding to say with regard to the Seventeenth U. S. Colored Regiment that the necessity of its being with Major-General Steedman is so great, and the duty so important, that it cannot be returned to you, until after its services are dispensed with by General Steedman. You will therefore have to do the best you can without the regiment for a short time, and make use of your remaining force to the best advantage.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
 December 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that, the Cumberland River being now open, you will push forward supplies to Nashville

by the river as rapidly as possible, particularly forage. Confer with the railroad authorities, and be prepared to forward supplies by the North Alabama Railroad whenever required by the army. Colonel Le Due is acting chief quartermaster, and Captain Beman acting chief commissary for the troops in the field. The major general commanding desires you to make it your particular business to see that the proper amount of supplies are placed at the different posts and stations immediately, and a regular supply kept up hereafter. General Grant has been ordered to reopen the Memphis and Charleston Railroad as far as Decatur, and you are desired to be prepared to supply all the line. This line will be reopened as the army advances. The Chattanooga and Knoxville line must be resupplied as soon as that road is repaired. The Northwestern Railroad need not be used for the present. Orders will be sent when it is desirable to resume operations on that road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSAY,
Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, December 19, 1864.

General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

I have advised this afternoon from Franklin. The bridge is all ready to raise as soon as the water is in condition to work.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 19, 1864—1 p.m.

Major ECKERT:

This forenoon the rains have been so heavy that little progress been made. Our cavalry skirmished with the enemy a short distance south of Spring Hill, finding Forrest in command. Rivers swell rapidly.

J. C. VAN DUZEE

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Spring Hill, Tenn., December 19, 1864—1 p.m.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that General Hatch's action, of this corps, is directed by Major-General Thomas to proceed to-morrow [19th] on the Columbia road. It is ordered to move at 6. Having no wagons or other baggage it will not delay your operations materially.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of St

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 19, 1861—8.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps, near Spring Hill:

GENERAL: On account of the bad state of the weather this morning, the major-general commanding directs that your corps remain in camp to-day, and attend to getting up your trains, if there are any behind, issuing provisions, and making preparations for continuing the pursuit to-morrow. All empty wagons to be sent to Franklin.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Rutherford's Creek, Tenn., December 19, 1861—5.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

Pursuant to orders we broke up camp at 8 o'clock this morning and advanced to Rutherford's Creek. There we found a portion of General Hatch's cavalry division had arrived and stopped by the enemy on the other side. The enemy was intrenched on the other side, having slight works thrown up on the hills on both sides of the pike, manned with infantry and a four-gun battery. I ordered up a rifle battery, which, with a battery of the cavalry, succeeded soon in silencing the enemy's guns. The opposite side of the creek being held by his sharpshooters, it was impossible to construct a bridge at the point where the turnpike crosses. For the purpose of driving off these sharpshooters I directed General Elliott to fell trees some distance above across the stream, for the purpose of enabling skirmishers to cross and drive out the sharpshooters, thus making a lodgment on the opposite side; but it was impossible to find any trees that would reach across, though quite a number were cut, and the rapidity of the current would sweep the trees around. General Crose's brigade, of General Kimball's division, is now engaged in trying to construct a bridge below the turnpike crossing, and I trust for success. I have also ordered General Elliott to try and construct a bridge at the turnpike crossing. Your order of 8.30 a. m. not to break up camp was not received until 12.30 p. m., two or three hours after we reached Rutherford's Creek. Rations will be issued as ordered, and the empty wagons will be sent back to Franklin. We will continue operations early to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, December 19, 1861—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that, if at all possible, you will push forward your command across Rutherford's Creek to-morrow morning and move directly against Forrest, who is said to be in camp

between Rutherford's Creek and Duck River with about 7,000 cavalry. General Wilson will cross General Hatch's division of cavalry on the ruins of the railroad bridge and strike Forrest on the flank, whilst you attack him in front. Confer with General William and arrange the relative time of starting the two columns. General Smith will co-operate with you by moving from Spring Hill by a road crossing the headwaters of Rutherford's Creek and passing the school house and church at A. Atkinson's and coming into the Columbia and Raleigh [Rally] Hill road near J. Caldwell's. Take no wagons with you except the necessary ammunition wagons and ambulances. Your supply train can be brought up afterward.

Very respectfully,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

December 18 [19], 1861.

(Received 10 a. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLERTON,

Chief of Staff.

COLONEL: General Grose's bridges are at work. They have felled trees, but the trees would not reach across. General Grose is now making a raft and with every prospect of success. He will probably, almost certainly, have his brigade all across before morning. My troops will all be rallied, as you ordered, before morning. I have just come from the creek, and everything is going as well as possible under the circumstances.

Very respectfully,

NATHAN KIMBALL,
Brigadier-General.

The rebels are making their appearance in front of General Grose. They were not there when he first went down.

NATHAN KIMBALL,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

December 18 [19], 1861.

(Received 11.30 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. J. S. FULLERTON,

Chief of Staff, Fourth Army Corps.

COLONEL: General Grose reports that it is impossible for him to get a man across the river on a raft. He has lost two rafts and two men drowned in the attempt, owing to the swiftness of the current. There are no trees he can fell that will reach across. He can only cross the river by bridging it. He has a good engineer (Major Watson) with him.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NATHAN KIMBALL,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Rutherford's Creek, December 19, 1861—2.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The officer in charge of the bridge-builders reports that he has failed in putting a bridge across the creek, on account of not finding a tree sufficiently large to reach across. The creek is rapidly rising. Enemy's sharpshooters still in our front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Rutherford's Creek, December 19, 1861—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General ELLIOTT,
Commanding Second Division:

General Wood directs me to inform you that he has just received information that General Hatch has succeeded in crossing Rutherford's creek. If this be true, you can learn the fact by pushing your skirmishers, or rather sharpshooters, well down on each side of the pike, and on making the push you find they (the enemy) are gone, commence building a bridge at once, connecting with the pike on each side of creek; burn down houses, use everything to facilitate building the bridge; make it stout enough for artillery and trains. General Wood does not wish Hatch's dismounted men to get ahead of your skirmishers. Please report progress.

I am, your obedient servant,

W. H. SINCLAIR,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Rutherford's Creek, December 19, 1861—6.25 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Fourth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Your communication of 4 p. m. received. My division officer of the day reports that the opposite bank of the creek is free from pickets of the enemy, but that about one regiment of the enemy occupied the hill east of and commanding the pike at the crossing of the stream, compelling the pickets to move their position. The current is very swift and creek still rising. It is not practicable to bridge the stream with the material at hand without the means of raising the logs of the pier, even should the enemy not oppose the working party. The division of persons more experienced in bridge-building than myself agree with the above.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General U. S. Volunteers, Commanding

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 19, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

The artillery firing is in the direction of Columbia. No report from it yet. Get your troops across Harpeth and attempt to come no farther today, but leave the roads clear for General Wilson's trains. Send an outpost on Hillsborough road. Be in readiness to march early to-morrow, and report if railroad has been repaired to Franklin or not.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FRANKLIN, *December 19, 1864.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland.

Harpeth is rising very fast, and I am apprehensive the trestle may be washed away. Where are the pontoons? I think they should be sent down by rail and land as soon as possible, if they have not already been sent by wagon.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 19, 1864.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

The pontoon bridge has been tacked up as much as possible, and should be at Franklin by this time.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Franklin, December 19, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

The superintendent of repairs is just in. He reports the railroad right to this point.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Franklin, December 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

I have my troops and a portion of my trains across the Harpeth. Shall I come forward in the morning?

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Spring Hill, December 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty third Army Corps:

Your dispatch received. Move forward with your command in the morning at 8 o'clock, giving place, however, to all of General Wilson's supply train. You can go into camp in the neighborhood of Spring Hill.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Franklin, Tenn., December 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith a letter to Major-General Halleck, Chief of Staff, urging the promotion of Brigadier-General Cox, and to urge that it may be forwarded with your indorsement. Unless General Cox can obtain the promotion which he has so often earned he will soon quit the service, which would be an irreparable loss to my command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Franklin, Tenn., December 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I desire earnestly to ask your attention, and through you that of the President and Secretary of War, to the claims of Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox to promotion. It is unnecessary to recite in detail the services of so distinguished an officer. He has merited promotion scores of times by skillful and heroic conduct in as many battles. He is one of the very best division commanders I have ever seen, and has often shown himself qualified for a higher command. Permit me to say that in overlooking the merits of such an officer as General Cox, the Government has, unintentionally of course, committed an act of great injustice, and one which must soon deprive the country of his services. An officer cannot exercise for three years a command which he is universally admitted to be eminently qualified for and yet be denied the corresponding rank, while his juniors, notoriously less deserving, are promoted, without feeling such mortification and chagrin as must drive him from the army. Excuse, general, the earnestness with which I refer to this matter. I do not exaggerate the merits of the case; on the contrary, I do not half state it.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

[Enclosed.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, Tenn., December 20, 1861.

Respectfully forwarded, earnestly recommending the promotion of Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox to the grade of major general. His services on the Atlanta campaign entitle him to the promotion asked for, and at the battle of Franklin he was eminently distinguished for personal courage, as well as for the skillful management of his command.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HIGGS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 181. } Near Franklin, Tenn., December 19, 1861.

I, Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Ruger, commanding First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, will proceed at once to Murfreesborough, Tenn., where he will assume command of the following named regiments belonging to the Twenty-third Army Corps, and march with them, without delay, by the most practicable route, to Columbia, Tenn., from which place he will move forward and join the Twenty-third Army Corps wherever it may be: One hundred and seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and seventy-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and seventy-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and eighty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and One hundred and fortieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. General Ruger will draw all the transportation necessary for his command from General J. B. Steedman. The two batteries belonging to the First Division now in Nashville will remain in that place until they can join the command in Columbia.

By command of Major General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Franklin, Tenn., December 19, 1861.

Maj. Gen. D. N. Couch,
Comdy. Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness to move at daylight to-morrow, the 20th instant, but not to strike tents until further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide de Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 19, 1861.

Maj. Gen. A. J. SMITH,
Commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major general commanding to say to you that General Wood has been ordered to march by the direct road to-morrow morning, if it is possible for his command to cross Rutherford's Creek, and move direct against Forrest, who is said to be in

camp between Rutherford's Creek and Columbia with about 7,000 men, while General Wilson moves Hatch's division of cavalry by the ruins of the railroad bridge and attacks Forrest on flank. You will co-operate in this attack by moving your command on General Wood's left, by getting into the road leading from Spring Hill by the school-house and church near A. Atkinson's and striking the Columbia and Raleigh [Rally] Hill road near Caldwell's. This road is indicated to you, but the major-general commanding says if you can find a road near to General Wood's left flank, it will be much better to take that. Take no trains except the necessary ammunition wagons and ambulances, and leave a sufficient guard over your supply train, which can be moved forward after you have cleared the main road. If possible, the major-general commanding desires you to see Generals Wood and Wilson and arrange the relative time for starting the respective commands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Eight Miles North of Columbia, December 19, 1864—6 a. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland.

GENERAL: With the exception of Hatch's division, my command is entirely without rations and nearly out of ammunition. I confidently expected the trains here last night, but I learn that the troops and trains of Wood's and A. J. Smith's corps so encumbered the road that it was impossible for our supplies to reach us. I started Hatch after the enemy on the Columbia road, but the balance of the command will have to remain here till the train overtakes them. Jackson's division, from Murfreesborough, crossed to Spring Hill night before last.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 19, 1864—8 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdg. Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Miss., 3 Miles beyond Spring Hill:

GENERAL: On account of the bad weather of this morning the major-general commanding thinks that you had better not strike your camp to-day, but remain where you are and reconnoiter the country in your neighborhood, get up your ordnance and other trains, issue ammunition and provisions, and make other needed preparations for continuing the pursuit to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Also send back ambulances and a medical officer, and collect your wounded left in houses by the roadside and remove them to Franklin. All empty wagons also to be sent to Franklin.

W. D. W.

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,

In Camp, Eight Miles North of Columbia,

December 19, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier General WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: Hatch succeeded in crossing two regiments dismounted over Rutherford's Creek, and drove the rebel cavalry back upon the main line. Prisoners and one man belonging to our navy just escape my Lee's corps marched by the Paducah pike from Columbia this morning, but that Cheatham's and Stewart's were in camp when he left Forrest, with about 7,000 cavalry, is lying between Rutherford's Creek and Duck River. He could be debauched quite easily by crossing division of infantry on the pike and Hatch by the ruins of the railroad bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Colonel, Major-General,

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Near Spring Hill, December 19, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdy. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

Your dispatch of 1.30 p. m. today is received. As I wish the troops to advance in the morning, if possible, I will instruct General Wood to advance by the main road, if he can cross the creek, whilst you move Hatch's division by the ruins of the railroad bridge, as you suggest.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Near Spring Hill, Tenn., December 19, 1864.

Maj. WILLIAM P. CHAMBERLAIN,

Special Inspector of Cavalry, Louisville, Ky.:

MAJOR: I have directed two brigades of dismounted men to be sent back to Louisville to be mounted, armed, and equipped. The officers in command are directed to confer with you as to the most expeditious and best means of accomplishing these objects. The winter campaign as far as these men are concerned, is over, and would prefer some delay rather than they should be hurried forward indifferently armed and mounted. I desire to impress you, and through you the authorities at Washington, with the necessity of arming all these men with the Spencer carbines. The recent active operations of this command have shown that this arm excels all others in war in durability, rapidity of firing, and general effectiveness. It has also been satisfactorily demonstrated that the ammunition was cheaper than any other, in the fact that during the three days and nights of continuous rain which we have been marching and fighting, these, above all others in use in this corps, have not been affected by moisture, and, from the careful way in which it is prepared, it is not injured by the jostling incident to being carried on horseback. The men of this command have all behaved gallantly, and I think deserve these arms, which they are all so anxious to obtain. By giving this matter your careful attention

you will render invaluable service to the cavalry arm of the service. If Brigadier-General Long's command has not marched before this reaches you, I would prefer it should remain until fully armed, mounted, and equipped, as it cannot reach me now until active operations are ended.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 9. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Spring Hill, Tenn., December 19, 1861.

I. This command will move forward to-morrow as follows:

The Fifth Division, General Hatch, will pursue the enemy on the direct road to the vicinity of Columbia, commencing the movement at 5 a. m.

II. The remainder of the corps will be held in readiness to move at 7 a. m., but will not move until rations are issued to the men.

III. Brig. Gen. R. W. Johnson, commanding Sixth Division, will proceed to Nashville with his dismounted brigade and the dismounted men of the First Brigade. The latter will be immediately prepared for the field and sent to their respective regiments, under competent officers. General Johnson will confer with Captain Green and Major Chambliss, special inspectors of cavalry, and at Nashville or Louisville, as they may determine, mount, arm, and equip the Second Brigade, and with it rejoin this command in the field as soon as possible.

IV. Brig. Gen. Joseph E. Kuyper, commanding Seventh Division, will proceed to Nashville with his dismounted brigade and the dismounted men of his other brigade. The latter will be immediately prepared for the field and sent, under competent officers, to their respective regiments. General Kuyper will confer with Captain Green and Major Chambliss, special inspectors of cavalry, and at Nashville or Louisville, as they may determine, mount, arm, and equip the dismounted brigade, and with it rejoin this command in the field as soon as possible. He will also take measures to collect such of his men as may be at Murfreesborough.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND REGT. FIRST DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
December 19, 1861.

Capt. ROBERT LE ROY,

Aid. Adj. Gen., First Division, Cavalry Corps.

CAPTAIN: I would respectfully report that I have reliable information that the rebels are crossing Green River at Ashbysburg, on rafts and by every available means, and I am following closely in the hope of taking them. My main column is within fourteen miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. H. LA GRANGE,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION CAVALRY,
Parish House, Three Miles from Duck Creek, December 19, 1864.
 Major-General WILSON:

I have succeeded in crossing Rutherford's Creek with dismounted men; not being in force, the enemy drive slowly. I have gone into camp here, with one brigade near Duck River bridge. One of our own men, a prisoner, has just come in. He left Corinth as a Confederate soldier coming to join the army. He left an ammunition train at Lawrenceburg. Two camps, Lee's and Cheatham's, went out of Columbia, on Pulaski pike, early this morning; Stewart's corps took the rear. All their cavalry, except a few companies, passed out of town by 10 p. m. The enemy's wagon train and pontoons not used at Columbia went out on the Lawrenceburg road on Mount Pleasant pike, and he heard orders given by officers which directed stragglers and detachments to report at Lawrenceburg. He saw no artillery recent with the infantry; saw a few pieces in the rear of the enemy. The enemy are already retreating. My men have followed them some distance, and they are probably all in Columbia by this time (sic) belonging to their rear guard.

EDWARD HATCH,

Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 19, 1864.*

Capt. HENRY M. CHAM,

Major-General Thomas' Headquarters.

The one hundred and seventy-fifth Ohio, about 400 effective, is the only regiment here which was on the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad. I will order it down as soon as I learn our army occupies Columbia. Nearly all the other troops at Columbia, and from there to Athens, before the rebel army came on, were cavalry, mounted and dismounted.

H. H. POLK,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

December 19, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. MILLER,

Commanding Post of Nashville.

GENERAL: The major general commanding directs that you will have all stragglers belonging to the troops in front whom you may find about the city of Nashville and vicinity arrested, confined in the barracks, and turned out, under guard, every day, to work on the fortifications until further orders, reporting to the major general commanding the number you have arrested and so employed. You will exercise great vigilance in overlooking the passage of persons permitted to go in and out of Nashville, and all persons who enter Nashville without proper authority should be arrested and put to work on the fortifications, until they can fully satisfy you that they are not enemies of the Government. Travel by railroad and steamboat to Nashville from Kentucky and the States west of the Ohio River is positively prohibited except with passes issued from headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, for good reasons, which must be stated on the pass. This order will be understood as particularly applicable to women desiring to enter Nashville, and none will be admitted unless their loyalty

well established and known, and even loyal women are not to be admitted except upon the best of reasons. You are also directed to make a thorough examination of the country about Nashville for the killed and wounded of the recent battle, and have them provided for, and also collect the arms, &c., found upon the field.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

[ROBT. H. RAMSEY,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 19, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Shall we send forward recruits and loose men belonging to the corps now with you? There are several hundred here. I have arrested many stragglers, and am having them examined, and will put the able bodied to work on the fortifications. My burial parties are still at work, but are nearly through. We have brought in the wounded. I have strong parties out gathering up arms and other war material. Captain Ramsey's dispatch received this morning, and the orders are being executed. General Craft has gone. What is to be done with recruits and loose men of General Sherman who come in after this date? Please give me the news. The nation is rejoicing over what has already been done.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

JNO. F. MILLER,
Brigadier-General.

FRANKLIN, December 19, 1864.

Capt. H. M. CIST,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In compliance with telegraph dispatch received, dated December 18, fourteen miles Franklin pike, I have the honor to report myself with my mounted command here.

Yours, &c.,

A. V. MATZDORFF,
Lieutenant Colonel Seventy-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers.

FRANKLIN, TENN., December 19, 1864.

Capt. H. M. CIST.

Block-house between here and Nashville is occupied. The one between here and Spring Hill will be occupied by to-morrow morning early.

A. V. MATZDORFF,
Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Spring Hill, December 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Col. A. A. SMITH,
Clarksville:

The major-general commanding directs that you report from time to time what you learn of the movements of the rebel General Lyon, and also of the movements of General McCook against him.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 19, 1861.

Brigadier-General MEACHAM:

You will order the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Palmer, the Twenty-ninth Indiana and Eighteenth U. S. Colored Infantry, to report to Colonel Mackay at once, for steam boat transportation to Decatur. Send all of the men of the Eighteenth [Ohio] and Sixty-eighth Indiana now in Chattanooga. You will relieve the Sixty-eighth New York and order them to march to Stevenson at once, where I will give them orders. You will send by boat 200 boxes of ammunition, caliber .48, and 1,000 rounds of artillery ammunition, one-half shell and one-half canister, to light 12's, to Decatur by boat. Please answer.

JAS. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Chattanooga, December 19, 1861.

Col. WILLIAM J. PALMER,

Commanding Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Warhatchie.

The news I telegraphed you yesterday is more than confirmed. Ned Johnson's division, including Kinch, captured, also Bate's division; Stevenson's division broken up. The enemy completely routed and in full retreat down the Columbia pike.

NATHAN HOFFMAN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAUHATCHIE, December 19, 1861.

Capt. HENRY A. FORD,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Please direct the steam boat to take my regiment on at Kelley's Ferry, three miles from here. It will save half a day's river transportation conveying the pack from Chattanooga. Can any wagons be taken along? I have twelve days' baggage and rations here. Can it be taken along and landed at Kelley's Ferry? It will take five boats to carry my effective force. Please telegraph when they will be at Kelley's Ferry.

WM. J. PALMER,

Colonel Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

WAUHATCHIE, December 19, 1861.

Captain FORD,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Please order up two companies of my regiment left at Dalton, under Capt. William F. Colton. They should start at daylight to-morrow, in order to accompany me on this expedition. Please answer.

WM. J. PALMER,

Colonel Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

BRIDGEPORT, December 19, 1861.

Capt. HENRY A. FORD,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General;

Your telegram of 10.30 p. m. of the 18th instant was received to-day at 9 a. m., and two trains from Chattanooga reported to me early this morning, after which they proceeded to Stevenson. Exclusive of the battery men and detachments on railroad, there are only 823 enlisted men aggregate at this post for duty; consequently, the post will be unprotected. I have ordered the troops to be in readiness as soon as possible, unless you would prefer to let the 800 troops from Chattanooga en route for this place proceed at once to Stevenson, instead of stopping here.

M. O. TAYLOR,
Colonel, Commanding.

BRIDGEPORT, December 19, 1861.

Capt. HENRY A. FORD,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General;

I have the honor to report that I have furnished the additional 400 men, and have reported the 800 men to General Granger, who is present, and rationed them to go on transports. I would respectfully request permission to-morrow to go to Chattanooga on official business pertaining to my regiment. Please answer.

M. O. TAYLOR,
Colonel, Commanding.

PADUCAH, December 19, 1861.

(Received 30th.)

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,

Nashville, Tenn.;

GENERAL: In reply to your telegram of the 18th instant, I have the honor to state that the three regiments of infantry left this place at 4 p. m. this day for Nashville, Tenn., with orders to report to General Thomas. As soon as your dispatch was received I ordered the regiments to leave. They only arrived here on the 17th instant, and I was waiting for a battery from Columbus, which arrived here to-day. The fog was very heavy here these last three nights, and no boat could leave, or I would have left this to meet Lyon last night.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

PADUCAH, KY., December 19, 1861.

Capt. J. B. DICKSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Lexington, Ky.;

CAPTAIN: I have just received a telegram from General Thomas, at Nashville, not to proceed against Lyon; that it is too late, and that McCook's division of cavalry was taking care of him, and that was sufficient, and I was to send on to Nashville the three regiments of infantry which were waiting here. I have done so, and it therefore is not necessary for me to take the field.

S. MEREDITH,
Brigadier-General.

PERSONAL.]

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 19, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,

Secretary of War:

I regret extremely to learn, by letter from George Willkes of the 13th instant, that you feel "excessively hurt and nettled" at some part of the contents of a letter I had the honor to address you on the 23d ultimo. Of this letter it is alleged, that "after assuming against the Department purposes it never entertained, you impute unworthy motives, and again indicate an intention of throwing up your commission." Fearing that the letter might admit of this interpretation, I have returned to it, and find that it is susceptible of a construction I never intended to have given. I was under the impression that the order making the change of these headquarters to Columbus had been determined on during your illness and without your knowledge, and regarded it as the work of my old adversary, Major General Halleck. This I meant clearly to have stated, but inadvertently omitted the name of the head of the Cavalry Bureau. It was with this feeling that the whole letter was written, and I desired to make it so prominent as to require no explanation. On repentance, I am exceedingly sorry to find that it is not, and I hasten to withdraw any part of the letter tending, in your judgment, to give offense to you. After the letter I have received from George Willkes, communicating your intentions with regard to my self, as well as the many personal assurances I have received of your friendly dispositions, I feel that to be insensible of them would express a want of appreciation, if not of gratitude, toward you. I can only withdraw the offensive part of my letter, and sincerely regret that I should have allowed any words to drop from my pen admitting of a construction directly or indirectly unfavorable to yourself. The letter was written before I received your telegram informing me that the change in question had not been contemplated by the Department. In justice to myself, I may state further, that in addition to the evidence I communicated to you that the headquarters of the department were to be transferred to Columbus, I was informed that Judge Swayne stated on his return from Washington that the order was out making the transfer, and that he had seen it. I may also add that I can find nothing in my letter of the 23d ultimo that will sustain the opinion that I again indicate the intention of throwing up my commission.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, your friend and servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,

Major General, Commanding.

PRIVATE.]

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, Ohio, December 19, 1864.

Hon. Z. CHANDLER,

U. S. Senate:

I received your note of the 15th instant, and entirely coincide with its views, as well as those you have expressed in the Senate chamber. I felt it to be my duty to issue the order in question on receiving the news of the action of the provincial authorities of Canada in the case of the Saint Albans raiders, and was only restrained by the conscious weakness of our Government in its foreign policy. To have issued such an order as in my opinion the necessities of the case demanded, I would not have been sustained at headquarters, and the order would have

been treated very much as has been that of General Dix. This would have bound me hand and foot for action at the time an opportunity presented itself. Now I am left free to act as I think proper. I assure you, Senator, in case a raid should be attempted from Canada, I intend that somebody shall be hurt, if I have to go into Canada to do it. Then if exception is taken, it can be adjusted by negotiation afterward. I want full swing at the devils once, and I think they will never attempt to disturb our quiet a second time. Cost what it may, the property and persons of our citizens shall be fully protected while I am in the exercise of the command of this department.

I have requested Senator Wade to have me summoned before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, and am daily expecting a reply. It is time that I should be allowed an opportunity to vindicate myself during the time I held command of the Army of the Potomac. Through the ignorance of some and the malice of others much wrong has been done. If Halleck can prevent it, he will, and he exercises as much influence over the Secretary of War as he ever did. There is an infernal conspiracy on foot to promote Sherman, Sheridan, and Meade, my juniors in the Regular Army, over my head, by making them major-generals, the latter having been retained in his present position by the politicians of Pennsylvania for more than six months, they making it a condition to their support of President Lincoln. As for the other two, I am willing that they should be promoted over me, if any of the armies or the people should deem their services, in example or deed, or their qualifications equal to mine.

Sherman insulted me professionally while of his army, from envy, as every officer and soldier of that army will tell you. I hope that you and your colleagues will see that my interests are protected.

Glorious tidings from Thomas.

Have no promotions made, if this injustice is to be perpetrated.

Your friend and servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., December 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,

Washington, D. C.:

I think Thomas has won the major generaley, but I would wait a few days before giving it, to see the extent of damages done. Good for the draft ordered. It is to be hoped that we will have no use for more men than we have now, but the number must be kept up. Rebel Congress is now in secret session, and it is believed they are maturing a negro conscript act. These people will all come to us, if they can, but they may be so guarded as to find it difficult to do.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Rutherford's Creek, December 20, 1864—8 p. m.

(Received 10.30 a. m. 21st.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

Washington, D. C.:

Notwithstanding the rise in Rutherford's Creek, we have succeeded in pushing the enemy's rear guard across Duck River to-day, capturing

some guns (verbally reported to me as being 5 in number—the report is not yet officially confirmed) and 50 or 60 prisoners. I hope to get the pontoon train up to night in time to enable me to throw a bridge across Duck River, and continue the pursuit at an early hour to-morrow morning. I have learned to-day that the head of the enemy's column left Columbia on Sunday morning, but being encumbered with a very large train of wagons and a large pontoon train, which latter he is obliged to take back to the Tennessee River, to enable him to cross at all, I feel almost confident that I will be able to overtake him before he can reach and cross the Tennessee River. On the 17th I requested Admiral Lee, by telegraph, to proceed up the Tennessee River with as many iron clads as he could secure, in order that he might prevent the enemy throwing a pontoon bridge over the river, or to destroy the bridge, if they had thrown one over. He was to have started the next day. I have also made arrangements to throw a force across the river at Decatur, and move on Tusculum, to seize the bridge at Florence, if possible. That force started three days ago, and, if General Grainger has acted vigorously, Decatur should be in our possession to-day. If the expedition against Tusculum* be successful, I am confident that we shall be able to capture the greater part of Hood's army.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., December 20, 1864.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

The Richmond Dispatch of to-day has the following:

From Southwestern Virginia.

Telegrams received yesterday from Lynchburg contain the latest intelligence we have from the raiders on the line of the Virginia and East Tennessee Railroad. From the latest of these, it appears that the Yankees on Saturday, having come to Max Meadows, ten miles this side of Wytheville, turned back toward Abingdon, destroying property of all kinds as they went. Another report regarding Colonel Witcher struck them at Atkins on Saturday evening about 4 o'clock and fought them till night. Atkins is a point on the railroad on our side of Marion. The result of Colonel Witcher's fight is not given. It is believed that the enemy have succeeded in destroying the machinery at the head works, the report that that point was guarded by General Vaughn being untrue. From the clarity of their movements it is doubtful whether the enemy have any artillery, and some think that for the lack of this arm they have not and will not attack the rail works. The statements of the telegraphs mentioned are based on information telegraphed to Lynchburg by officers of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, one of whom escaped from the enemy at Glade Spring, and the other went out from Lynchburg on an engine to make a reconnaissance. These officers also report that the enemy has destroyed every bridge on the railroad between Glade Spring and Max Meadows.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FRANKLIN, TENN., December 20, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

I have sent out six scouts this morning—three on either flank.

J. G. PARKHURST,
Provost-Marshal-General.

* So recorded in Thomas' telegrams-sent book, but as received by Halleck it is Florence.

FRANKLIN, *December 20, 1864—10 a. m.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Pontoon train across the creek and started forward. Bridge will not be done before to-morrow evening.

WM. G. LE DUC,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

NASHVILLE, *December 20, 1864.*

Major-General THOMAS:

The pontoon train of sixty boats will be ready to-morrow afternoon.

JAS. R. WILLETT,
Major, &c.

DECEMBER 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

GENERAL: The pontoon train is now passing through Spring Hill, and will camp near the pike, two miles south of that place, the trains being unable to go on any further. I will start the train by daylight to-morrow. It will be necessary to take in consideration that forage for the animals of the train (500) will be needed; their forage will be out to-morrow night.

Respectfully,

JAMES R. WILLETT,
Major, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Send out forage by first train. The construction corps has been ordered to have the road repaired to Spring Hill this p. m. Portion of army out of forage.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Rutherford's Creek, December 20, 1864—8.10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Cumberland, Nashville:

The major-general commanding directs that you send by railroad as far as Spring Hill three trains of forage and two trains of subsistence stores, at as early an hour to-morrow morning as it is possible. Please acknowledge receipt.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Nashville, December 20, 1864.

Capt. R. H. Ramsey.

We are repairing the railroad to Murfreesborough and turnpike to Franklin as rapidly as possible, and have telegraphed the quartermasters at Chattanooga, and Knoxville and Knoxville, to push their repairs from that point to Murfreesborough, and, as soon as open, to send forward subsistence, as they will get their position open sooner than we will. I am going to Franklin today, and will run to Murfreesborough from Chattanooga to-morrow, as I am informed.

J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Rutherford's Creek, December 20, 1864.

Lieutenant Houghton,

Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the Cumberland, Chattanooga.

The major general commanding directs me to say that as soon as you learn that the railroad is in operation to Athens, Ala., you will move your detachment and train by railroad to that place, and join him in the field by wagon road from there, wherever you may know him to be.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant General.

Nashville, Tenn., December 20, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. T. T. Eckert:

Thomas' headquarters moved about 11 a. m. to-day, having been at Spring Hill since Monday night. Have not heard from his telegraphers at Duck River yet; infer that they have gone on to Columbia. It stormed all yesterday, but we pressed enemy hard enough to take in 1,300 of their rear guard. Beauregard's force has joined Thomas, while Steelman takes his darkies to Murfreesborough, and Meagher brings his new troops to Tullahoma. General Oranger has started for Decatur, with gunboats supporting.

J. C. VAN DUZER.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Eight Miles North of Columbia, December 20, 1864—1 a. m.

Brig. Gen. TH. J. Wood,

Commanding Fourth Corps.

GENERAL: I have taken the liberty of reading the inclosed instructions,* based upon the first report sent in by Hatch to me this evening. He has subsequently moved back to the north side of Rutherford's Creek, but reports that he thinks Forrest gone. I will direct General Hatch, however, to push out very early in the morning and ascertain in time the true state of affairs to enable you to judge how strongly you ought to push. I don't think it necessary for Smith to leave the pike at all.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

December 20, 1864—3 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

(GENERAL: Your dispatch dated 9 a. m. [9 p. m. 19th] just received. Every effort will be made to carry out your instructions. Generals Elliott and Kimball have not yet succeeded in crossing any men over the creek. Last night two rafts were swamped and several men, two at any rate, were drowned in the attempt. The water is very deep and runs very swift.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

Near Columbia, Tenn., December 20, 1864—2 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff:

(GENERAL: This corps is now forming on the north bank of Duck River opposite Columbia, and is only prevented by the want of a pontoon train from crossing the river and continuing the pursuit of the enemy. It is much to be regretted that we have no pontoon train here. The river is quite high and appears to be rising, and it appears to me the only way to cross it will be by a pontoon bridge, as it will take a long time and much trouble to construct any other kind. There is no indication that there is any enemy on the south bank of the river, and every indication and report goes to show that he has retreated. It is reported that his pontoon bridges over Duck River were taken up at daylight this morning. I constructed two passage-ways for infantry, about half a mile apart, over Rutherford's Creek. If the creek does not fall to dry, so as to be fordable, the rear corps should build a bridge for the passage of wagons and artillery, which we had not time to do.

Respectfully, yours,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Rutherford's Creek, December 20, 1864—8,30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. TH. J. WOOD,

Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that Major-General Schofield has been instructed to build a trestle bridge over Rutherford's Creek, so that the artillery and trains can cross. Major-General Smith will assist in getting the pontoon train over and hurry it forward to you as rapidly as possible, to enable you to throw bridges over Duck River early in the morning. It is the desire of the major-general commanding that the entire army be over the river before to-morrow night, in which case he is hopeful that the greater part of Hood's army may be captured, as he cannot possibly get his trains and troops across the Tennessee River before we can overtake him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Rutherford's Creek, December 20, 1

Col. J. S. FULLERTON,

Chief of Staff, Fourth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have to report that General Crose has a few men in the creek, and that he is crossing his brigade, and will soon have a bridge as infantry can cross on. The creek has fallen four feet morning. I am now going to the crossing where General Crose's gale is at work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NATHAN KIMBALL,
Brigadier-General

SPRING HILL, December 20, 1

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My troops are in camp at this place. I will await general's orders here. My pontoon train is now passing, and I ordered my engineer battalion to report to the officer in charge of train, to assist in laying the bridges.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 20, 1

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major general commanding directs me to inquire whether the railroad trains have made their appearance at Spring Hill yet. Please answer by telegraph, stating what they are loaded if any have arrived.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Spring Hill, Tenn., December 20, 1861—10,30 P.

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Rutherford's Creek:

No railroad train has arrived here. I understand the bridge Franklin will not be done before to-morrow night. There is a telegraph station here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, near Rutherford's Creek, December 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Army of the Ohio;

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command to Rutherford's Creek to-morrow, and build a wagon bridge over that stream. Let the force that is detailed for that purpose commence work as early as possible in the morning. It is intended to send the pontoon bridge on direct to Duck River. The Fourth Corps and General Smith's command will cross as soon as the bridge is completed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, (HQRS. ARMY OF THE OHIO,
 No. 182.) *In the Field, December 20, 1864.*

I. At a general court-martial, which was convened at headquarters Army of the Ohio, December 11, 1864, pursuant to Special Field Orders, No. 170, from these headquarters, dated December 11, 1864, and of which Col. L. N. Stiles, Sixty-third Indiana Infantry, is president, was arraigned and tried

W. C. McReynolds, military telegraph operator.

CHARGE: Disobeying the lawful commands of his superior officers.
Specification I.—In this, that he, the said W. C. McReynolds, was ordered by Major Campbell, assistant adjutant-general, Twenty-third Army Corps, to remain at headquarters of said corps at Columbia, Tenn., and did disobey said order by going to Franklin, Tenn. This at or near Columbia, Tenn., on or about November 27, 1864.

Specification II.—In this, that he, the said W. C. McReynolds, was ordered by Major Wherry, aide-de-camp, General Schofield's staff, from Franklin, Tenn., to Columbia, Tenn., to interpret a dispatch, and that he did disobey said order, and did reply to it in words and figures as follows:

FRANKLIN, 29th—7 a. m.

Major Wherry,
Aide-de-Camp:

I have no horse at all; mine was stolen last night. Capt. received by you yesterday repented and translated, and sent via courier last night. Will return as soon as I get horse. I have a scout of fifteen men.

Very respectfully,

McREYNOLDS,
Operator.

All this at or near Columbia, Tenn., on or about November 28, 1864.

To which charge and specifications the accused pleaded as follows:

To the 1st Specification, "Not guilty."

To the 2d Specification, "Not guilty."

To the CHARGE, "Not guilty."

FINDING.

The court, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, W. C. McReynolds, military telegraph operator, as follows:

Of the 1st Specification of the charge, "Guilty."

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Of the *2d* Specification of the charge, "Guilty."
Of the CHARGE, "Guilty."

And the court does therefore sentence him, the said W. C. McReynolds, military telegraph operator, to hard labor for one month on such public works as the general commanding the Department of the Ohio may direct.

Finding and sentence approved. The sentence is remitted, and Mr W. C. McReynolds will be released from arrest and returned to duty.

The general court-martial of which Col. T. S. Stiles is president is hereby dissolved.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Spring Hill, Tenn., December 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. S. COUCH,

Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you march your command to-morrow morning, immediately in rear of General Cox's division to Rutherford's Creek. General Cox's division will march soon as the road is cleared by the pontoon train now in his front. Your battalions will reach you this evening in time to be on hand before starting the morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Spring Hill, Tenn., December 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. D. COX,

Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you move your command to-morrow morning, as soon as the road cleared by the pontoon train, as far as Rutherford's Creek, where you will encamp and detail a force, as large as can be used to advantage, to assist the engineer battalion in building the wagon bridge across the creek. The pontoon train is parked two miles south of town.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Mrs. Brown's House, Duck River Crossing,
December 20, 1864—124

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My advance has been here some time, the last of enemy—Forrest, Cheatham, and Loring—having left during the night. A few mounted men can be seen on the other side of the river.

Brown, a very intelligent woman, who conversed with many of their generals, says they will make no stand this side of the Tennessee River. Duck River is very high, and therefore cannot be passed at any point without the aid of a bridge train; one should be sent forward at once. We shall have no difficulty laying it near the turnpike crossing. Most of the rebels have probably gone by the Pulaski road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 20, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: General Forrest came to the river-bank, under a flag of truce, and requested an exchange of prisoners. I have just sent an officer to inform him that I have no prisoners to exchange.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Rutherford's Creek, December 20, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that you did perfectly right in telling Forrest you had no prisoners to exchange with him. Major-General Schofield has been directed to build a trestle bridge across Rutherford's Creek, and the pontoon train will be up with you to-morrow morning early, if the mules are able to haul it. If at all possible the major-general commanding desires the army to be across Duck River before to-morrow night. Hood cannot possibly get all his troops and trains across the Tennessee River before we can overtake him, if we get across Duck River to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. DIST. OF WEST FLORIDA AND SOUTH ALABAMA,
Franklin Creek, Jackson County, Miss., December 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:

COLONEL: Your dispatch of the 15th is this day received.* Upon my representation to General Davidson of my extreme want of cavalry, he kindly gave me the Fourteenth New York, 250 strong, which is now arriving in my camp. My object in requesting General Davidson's cavalry to report to me was to cross it over the Big Dog or Escatawpa

* See Vol. XI.I, Part IV, p. 203.

River, and then push it upon to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad between the latter river and the Pascagoula, while in the meantime I intended to make a bold demonstration on Mobile. In this manner I felt sure of breaking the treacherous and bridges over the headwaters of Pascagoula and Dog Rivers, but the movement of which you advise me is undoubtedly more important just now. With the small force I have will do the best I can. The amount of excellent lumber in our possession will probably be not less than from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 feet, besides resin, cotton, and steam machinery of value. If the general can possibly spare two or three more regiments of infantry, with the cavalry now here, I think we can hold our position and secure the lumber, besides damaging the rebels not a little. The steamers J. M. Brown, A. G. Brown, Swain, and Tancardigan ran up the Dog River to Good's Mill, where the bulk of the lumber is. The rebel papers and prisoners report that Pollard and the Mobile and Montgomery Railroad have "gone up." Please give orders for our transports returning from Lakeport to West Pascagoula for cavalry, to bring me such ration, forage, and materials as I may make requisitions for. I need a topographical engineer very much to map the country; our present maps are worthless. The rebels gave us a slight brush day before yesterday, we being one man; to-day we returned the compliment by bringing down a rebel officer.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

G. GRANGER,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I am placing the lumber in rafts, ready for towing or rafting down the river as early as possible.

G. G.

HOPKINSVILLE, December 20, 1861.

Col. O. H. LA GRANGE:

I received your dispatch last night, and am much gratified with the vigor of your pursuit. I have sent part of Watkins' command toward the river. I judge from Lyon's attempting to cross at Ashbysburg, he intends taking Morgan's old route, through Elizabethtown and to Eastern Kentucky. I have sent dispatches to Louisville, so that he may be headed off, if he goes that way. Let me hear from you if he goes toward Bowling Green, so that I may move down in that direction. I hope, however, that you have struck him before he crossed the river. I will wait here to hear from you.

E. M. MCCOOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
Ashbysburg, Ky., December 20, 1861.

Capt. ROBERT L. ROY,

Asst. Adj. Gen., First Cav. Div., Mil. Dir. of the Miss.:

CAPTAIN: Lyon crossed Green River at this point, with about 900 men, on the 18th and 19th instant, and destroyed the ferry-boats for 10 miles up and down the river. On the evening of the 19th my advance after marching thirty miles over terrible roads, drove a portion of

rear guard into the river, and compelled him to scatter about 200 of his men on this side of the river, besides abandoning his wagons and releasing a large number of conscripts. One of his men was killed, several were drowned, and several captured. This morning (20th) I sent a detail to Ramsey to bring the steamer D. B. Campbell, which was lying at that point; fortunately, they met a boat. By 12 m. my entire command will be across in good condition, and my advance fifteen miles in pursuit. I feel confident of overtaking and compelling Lyon to flight, unless he breaks his command up into squads, which I fear he will do if hard pressed. I will telegraph you of future movements at Russellville, if possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. H. LA GRANGE,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Eight Miles from Columbia, December 20, 1864—1 a. m.

Brigadier-General HATCH,
Commanding Fifth Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: At 6 a. m. push a strong dismounted force across Rutherford's Creek, by the ruins of railroad bridge, and ascertain whether Forrest has actually withdrawn his force. Communicate at once the information obtained to General Wood, commanding Fourth Corps, who is directed to co-operate with you in the attack, if Forrest is still there. I infer from your report of this evening that you are under the impression he has withdrawn. Get all the information you can in regard to position and movements of the enemy's forces.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION CAVALRY,
Parish House, December 20, 1864—5.40 a. m.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Your order to advance at 6 a. m., written 1 a. m., of this date, just received. The railroad bridge was carried out last night. I think I can get within two miles of Columbia, at the mouth of Rutherford's Creek, and will force a crossing there. If the enemy's pontoons are not yet taken up, there is a chance of bringing guns to bear on it. I believe the enemy has left, as my dismounted men pushed him within three miles of Columbia last night.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,
Brigadier-General.

ON FRANKLIN AND COLUMBIA PIKE,
December 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brevet Major-General WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Hatch has one brigade across the river, and will cross the other as soon as possible. He crossed at the second railroad

bridge, the first one having lodged at the second. Major Forbes, Seventh Illinois, is just this side of Columbia. There is something of a force at that place.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. H. KNEELAND,
Captain and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEAD-QUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION CAVALRY,

Near Columbia, December 29, 1861—7 p. m.

Major-General Wilson, Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The officer sent up the river to Hox's Mill reports all fords in that vicinity impassable. Plenty of forays between that point and Columbia for the entire cavalry command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,
Regimental General.

HOPKINSVILLE, KY., December 29, 1861—9 a. m.

General H. Ewing, to

OFFICE COMMANDING FORCE AT LOUISVILLE:

Part of Lyon's force was lying across the Green River on rafts at Ashbysburg yesterday, one brigade of mine in pursuit, and they advance within four miles. If he gets any of his force across he may try to go through the country between Elizabethtown and Cave City or along there some place into Eastern Kentucky. Look out for him.

E. M. MCCOOK,
Regimental General, Commanding.

MEMPHIS, TENN., December 29, 1861.

(Received 22d.)

Major-General Wilson,

Commanding Cavalry Corps, Nashville, Tenn.:

General Dana, under orders from Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck to use all the available forces of the command to break the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, detains all the cavalry here belonging to the Fourth Division. The expedition leaves to-day, and will be absent about two weeks. Captain Noyes arranged with General C. C. Washburn to leave the Second New Jersey and Seventh Indiana in this department. Telegraph me to name the regiments I am to take to Louisville, so that there may be no misunderstanding.

R. UPTON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Fourth Cavalry Division.

CLARKSVILLE, December 29, 1861—10.30 a. m.

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY, Assistant Adjutant-General:

On Friday last McCook attacked a part of Lyon's force at Hopkille, captured one gun, some prisoners, and scattered the rest. Part of my mounted force has been out in that direction two days. I report when they return. Last report of Lyon, near Eddyville.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding

CHATTANOOGA, *December 20, 1861.*

Major-General STEEDMAN:

The agent will send you 130 cars; all that he has. The 175 cars you took with you to Nashville have not been returned. The last of your forage, rations, and ammunition leave here this morning on board of the Kennesaw. Your cavalry march to Bridgeport to-day. Your train and cavalry cannot be sent to Decatur until two transports up the river return and General Granger releases two of the steamers that have gone with him.

A. J. MACKAY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS PORT OF NASHVILLE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 20, 1861.

Major BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

I am informed that between our picket-line and Brentwood Hills there are numerous bands of dismounted cavalry wandering about and committing all manner of depredations. I would respectfully suggest that some step be taken to get these men into camp and under control, that an end may be put to this evil.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. P. MULLER,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, *December 21, 1861—12 m.*
(Via Nashville, Tenn.)

Major-General THOMAS:

Permit me, general, to urge the vast importance of a hot pursuit of Hood's army. Every possible sacrifice should be made, and your men for a few days will submit to any hardship and privation to accomplish the great result. If you can capture or destroy Hood's army Sherman can entirely crush out the rebel military force in all the Southern States. He begins a new campaign about the 1st of January, which will have the most important results, if Hood's army can now be used up. A most vigorous pursuit on your part is therefore of vital importance to Sherman's plans. No sacrifice must be spared to attain so important an object.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 21, 1861.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of 12 m. this day is received. General Hood's army is being pursued as rapidly and as vigorously as it is possible for our army to pursue another. We cannot control the elements, and, you

most memorable, that for Hood's advance into Tennessee I had to reorganize and almost thoroughly reequip the force now under my command. I fought the battle of the Elk and both instant with the troops but partially equipped, and, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather and the partial equipment, have been enabled to drive the enemy beyond Duck River, crossing two streams with my troops, and driving the enemy from position to position, without the aid of pontoons, and with but little transportation for bringing up supplies of provisions and ammunition. I am doing all in my power to crush Hood's army, and, if it be possible, will destroy it; but pursuing an enemy through an extensive country, over sand roads, completely sogged with heavy rains, is not likely to be accomplished as quickly as thought of. I hope, in pushing on to push the enemy, the Department remembers that General Sherman took with him the complete organization of the Military Division of the Mississippi, well equipped in every respect as regards ammunition, supplies, and transportation, leaving me only two corps, partially stripped of their transportation to accommodate the force taken with him, to oppose the advance into Tennessee of that army which had resisted the advance of the Army of the Military Division of the Mississippi on Atlanta, from the commencement of the campaign until its close, and which is now, in addition, aided by Forrest's cavalry. Although my progress may appear slow, I feel assured that Hood's army can be driven from Tennessee, and eventually driven to the wall, by the force under my command; but too much must not be expected of troops which have to be reorganized especially when they have the task of destroying a force in a winter campaign which was able to make an obstinate resistance to twice its numbers in spring and summer. In conclusion, I can safely state that this army is willing to submit to any sacrifice to meet Hood's army, or to strike any other blow which would contribute to the destruction of the rebellion.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 21, 1861.

Major-General HALLIDAY,
Washington, D. C.

I have heard to-day that General McCook attacked a portion of Lyon's force at Hopkinsville on the 17th (16th) and dispersed it, capturing one gun, and that Colonel La Grange attacked another portion at Ashbysburg, on Green River, Ky., scattering his men in all directions causing him to burn most of his baggage, a considerable number of small-arms and ammunition. La Grange's force drove Lyon's rearguard into the river, killing and drowning a great many. He will continue the pursuit as soon as he can cross the river. The progress of the force under my command is impeded by the high state of water in Harpeth River, Rutherford's Creek, and Duck River; but, with the assistance of pontoons, just up, I hope we shall be able to continue the pursuit in the morning.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

NASHVILLE, *December 21, 1861.*

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General;

Telegram received. Forage and subsistence will leave for Spring Hill as soon as possible.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 21, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Yours of yesterday received. The major-general commanding wishes you to push forward the repairs on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad as fast as possible, and open communication between those two places at the earliest possible moment, but, by all means, the repairs of the Nashville and North Alabama Railroad must be kept up with the advance of the army, if it is possible.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 21, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

When will the steamers leave Nashville for Eastport, according to order of yesterday?

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, *December 21, 1861.*

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch received, and I send this day by two steamers 10,000 rations to Eastport, as ordered, also model barge to facilitate crossing of artillery. I have asked for 4,000 horses to remount cavalry, and a word from the major general would be efficacious in hurrying them on. You say nothing of grain for animals in the movement ordered, but I shall send a steamer with grain, also some medical supplies.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

FRANKLIN, *December 21, 1861—12 m.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

There is no probability of the railroad bridge being done to-day. I have put the men sent to build the turnpike bridge on the railroad bridge, to help Mr. Eicholtz. He finds unusual and unexpected difficulties. The wreck of the old bridge is in the bottom of the river, and it is very difficult to get a foundation for the trestles. Everything is being done that can be to hurry it forward. I have ordered horses to

be brought up to the bridge. The mud is so deep that wagons can hardly cross. The railroad reported good to Spring Hill; nothing known here farther ahead.

WM. G. LE DUC,

FRANKLIN, December 21, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

There are fifteen pontoons here. The water has fallen so much that I do not think they will be needed. They are of the long pattern—long whole boats—and they report they are unable to move them through the mud across the creek. Do you need them in front? Shall I try to get them over and started on, or send them back to Nashville, or let them remain here subject to further orders? I ordered a land car from Nashville this morning, to run out and examine and fix the telegraph line to the front; it has not been sent yet.

WM. G. LE DUC,

FRANKLIN, December 21, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

Construction train is across the Harpeth. I leave for Spring Hill; others following.

WM. G. LE DUC,

Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

FRANKLIN, December 21, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

The railroad is reported all right to Duck River, switches and all, by a person who says he has walked over it from Duck River to-day. The bridge will probably be done by to-morrow at 12 m.; I do not think sooner. A company of pioneers should be put to work on the station at Duck River, if necessary, to make a good landing for stores; corduroy will be best.

WM. G. LE DUC,

Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

December 21, 1864.

Mr. SYKES WATKINS,

In Charge of Telegraphic Construction Train:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that your train follow next after, and keep closed on the supply train of the headquarters of the army, and it will in all respects be considered as a portion of the headquarters train. Should any other train or persons whatsoever attempt to separate your wagons from the other portion of the headquarters train, you will show them this order and insist upon maintaining your place; should they persist in separating your wagons from the rest of the train, you will ascertain their names and report them to these headquarters for disobedience of orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Rutherford's Creek, December 21, 1864.

Mr. EICHOLTZ,
Superintendent of Railroad Repairs, Franklin, Tenn.:

SIR: The major-general commanding was this morning surprised and disappointed to learn that the railroad bridge at Franklin is not yet finished. He says that you must finish it to-day, and have trains as far as Spring Hill this afternoon. The army is suffering for forage, which it was expected the railroad would bring before this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

U. S. MILITARY RAILROADS,
 OFFICE OF ASSISTANT ENGINEER,
Franklin, December 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, &c.:

GENERAL: I regret to say it will be utterly impossible to finish the bridge to-day. We are making but slow progress, on account of the high water and the mass of wreck and iron in the stream, which it is next to impossible to remove. Our ropes freeze and stiffen, and the men are scarcely able to hold themselves on the scaffolding on account of the ice. We cannot possibly cross the bridge before to-morrow noon, unless the water falls and weather moderates. We are doing all that can be done under the circumstances. I have sent for Colonel Wright.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. H. EICHOLTZ,
Division Engineer.

SANBVILLE, TENN., *December 21, 1864—9 p. m.*

Maj. THOMAS T. ECKERT:

General Thomas' headquarters are two miles north of Duck River to-night. Rebel army south of that stream. Our pontoon train was not up at 5 p. m., but would be during the night. Rain or wet snow has fallen constantly since Saturday. No fighting to-day. River bank full and rising.

J. C. VAN DEZIER,
Captain, U. S. Military Telegraph.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Duck River, December 21, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding Army of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I respectfully suggest that 15,000 pairs of shoes and 15,000 pairs of socks be brought up, as soon as possible, to the nearest point on the railroad, and then forwarded by wagon train. The men are not barefooted, but travelling on the pike in the wet will, in a very few days, ruin their shoes and disable many of our men.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 21, 1861.Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this a. m. with the reference to the supply of 15,000 pairs shoes and 15,000 pairs of socks for your troops. In reply I am directed to state that the most certain and expeditious way you can get these things will be for your chief quartermaster to make a requisition for them on the chief quartermaster of the army, when they can be brought up by rail as far as possible, and then by road to the army. Orders will be given, however, to have the articles desired supplied at the earliest possible moment, when requisitions are handed in.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Rutherford's Creek, December 21, 1861.Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

I have the honor, by direction of the major-general commanding, to say to you that the pontoon train will be up with you as soon as it is possible to get it up. It progresses with a great deal of difficulty, but will be hurried forward as rapidly as possible. The major-general commanding directs me to say, also, that he desires you to have collected for the animals belonging to the pontoon train (about 500 in number) forage sufficient for two days. They have been traveling so constantly that they have been unable to forage for themselves, and are consequently much exhausted. The forage can be collected, so as to be ready for them as soon as the train reaches you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Duck River, December 21, 1861—12 m.Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding Army of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: Your letter in reference to hurrying up the pontoon train and collecting forage has just been received. The best that can be done will be done to collect forage for the pontoon train, but I apprehend that very little can be done in that way. The cavalry has pretty effectually scoured the country and cleaned up the forage for some distance around us. I have very few wagons this side of Rutherford's Creek, and if I had ever so many it would be impossible to move off the turnpike—they would be swamped at once. I have no horse to bring up forage. All that can be done will be done.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Duck River, Tenn., December 21, 1861—1.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland:

Please allow three of my batteries to cross the pontoon bridge as soon as it is laid over Rutherford's Creek, to assist in laying the bridge over Duck River. The enemy has a party of observation on the south bank of the river, defended by strong stone fences. I wish to batter them down.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Duck River, December 21, 1861—1.30 p. m.

Major GODDSPEED,
Chief of Artillery, Fourth Army Corps:

See General Thomas and ask him to let you push over three batteries (two rifled and one other) as soon as the pontoon bridge is completed at Rutherford's Creek. Bring them up to the front, to assist in laying the pontoon bridge over Duck River.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:
J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Rutherford's Creek, December 21, 1861.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you detail one company from your command, of not less than thirty men and one commissioned officer, for guard duty at the pontoon bridge over Rutherford's Creek. The commanding officer will report to Captain Abdill, now at the bridge, and will relieve Captain Abdill's company, now acting as guards. Trains will cross the bridge in the following order, and the commanding officer of the company on guard will be held responsible that these directions are strictly carried out, and that there be no unnecessary confusion and no damage done the bridge. Order of crossing: First, the pontoon train; second, three batteries belonging to Fourth Army Corps; third, the train of the cavalry command; fourth, the Fourth Corps trains; fifth, the trains of Major-General Smith's command; sixth, the Twenty-third Army Corps trains.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Rutherford's Creek, December 21, 1861—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that, in crossing your command to-morrow morning over Rutherford's Creek, they will

Follow the command of Major-General Smith, his trains also preceding your troops. In order to save the pontoon bridge the troops will cross on the foot bridge, just above the old permanent bridge.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 183. } Near Columbia, Tenn., December 21, 1861.

1st Brig. Gen. N. O. McLean, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty in the District of Kentucky, and will report in person, without delay, to these headquarters, for duty with the army in the field.

By command of Major-General Schofield:
J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Rutherford's Creek, December 21, 1861—12.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. N. Caven,
Comdg. Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you march your command at once to Rutherford's Creek, without waiting for General Cox.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Columbia, December 21, 1861—9.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,
Chief of Staff:

General Hatch has just reported that the Second Iowa Cavalry, sent out this morning toward the Lewisburg pike, has captured 2 cannon, 6 ambulances, 2 wagons. I have sent to inquire from what for they were taken and to direct a thorough scouring of the country that direction to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
FIELD ORDERS, } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
No. 10. } Brown's House, December 21, 1861

L. Ident. H. W. Barr, Third Tennessee Cavalry, is relieved from duty as aide-de-camp to the brevet major-general commanding, and is reported to his regiment, the necessity for having additional staff office having p

Capt. J. W. Harper, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, will proceed to Nashville, Tenn., with the enlisted men of his regiment whose terms of service have expired, for the purpose of having them mustered out of the service of the United States.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

REGULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Mrs. Brown's House, December 21, 1864.

Every exertion must be made to get the forges up, in order that the services of the command may be shed as rapidly as possible.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS,

HIGH, SECOND DIV., CAV. CORPS,

MILITARY DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

No. 38.

Louisville, Ky., December 21, 1864.

11. The command will move promptly at 7 a. m. on Saturday, the 24th instant. Order of march: First, division headquarters; second, second Brigade; third, First Brigade. The trains, ambulances, and guns will march in the rear of their respective brigades, with a rear and behind them. The division headquarters train will march with it in advance of that of the leading brigade. Brigade commanders will take efficient measures to prevent pillaging of houses and all necessary destruction of property on the road. Each brigade will have a field officer of the day, who will have a general superintendence of the guards and prevent struggling, pillaging, and disorders of all kinds on the march. All officers will arrest any soldier galloping his horse, unless he is acting as an orderly or is under orders. Brigade commanders will select a good non-commissioned officer to go on the march to Nashville with what stores they may have to send that way, with a man as a guard for them. The non-commissioned officer will report to Lieut. J. B. Hayden, division acting assistant quartermaster, as soon as practicable, to make arrangements for the transportation of said stores. The brigade commanders will see that each man will have two pairs of shoes, with nails, to carry along. The pack mules will be packed and exercised as much as possible between this and the time of starting, and on Friday, as soon after the inspection as possible, the wagons will be loaded and everything got in readiness to move without delay. Saturday morning the command will start with four days' rations.

By command of Brigadier-General Long:

T. W. SCOTT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION CAVALRY,
Left of Columbia Pike, December 21, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The Second Iowa drove the enemy's cavalry off the Lewisburg pike this evening. Captured 2 guns, 6 ambulances, 2 wagons, a drove of hogs and cattle. The enemy got off in the darkness.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH DIVISION CAVALRY,
Left of Columbia Pike, December 21, 1864—10:30 p. m.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The Second Iowa is at the junction of the Lewisburg pike and Columbia and Murfreesborough road. The force encountered was the rear guard of French, mostly Texas cavalry, from 200 to 300 strong. This force was cut off from crossing at the pontoon here, and attempted to escape toward the left, and is now scattered, and probably swimming Duck River in small squads. The Second Iowa is about fourteen miles from here, and is force enough to whip anything out there north of Duck River. The entire road is strewn with small arms.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

E. HATCH,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE TENNESSEE,
Nashville, December 21, 1864—7:30 p. m. (Received 22d.)

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHITPLE,
Assistant Adjutant General and Chief of Staff:

I have just arrived from Murfreesborough. As soon as I heard of the result of the battle here, I put reconstruction trains at work on the railroad north and south of Murfreesborough. By working all night before last, the road was repaired south of Murfreesborough in time for General Steedman's trains to come up from Chattanooga. Ten of them arrived at Murfreesborough last night. He would leave this forenoon for Bridgeport. He asked for four regiments of the troops at Murfreesborough to go on his expedition, and I directed General Milroy, just as I left, to order four of the best to report to him, which I suppose would meet your approbation. Shall I send General Milroy and his command back to Tullahoma? I shall direct the assignment of guards to the road between here and Murfreesborough as fast as it is completed. A wagon train with supplies for the troops at Murfreesborough left here to-day. I sent the train from there two days ago. Everything is in good condition there, and the railroad north of that will be completed in a few days.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 21, 1861.

Gen. L. H. ROUSSEAU,
Commanding District of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you relieve detachments of the Tenth Indiana Cavalry now on duty in your command, and direct them to report without delay to the commanding officer of the First Brigade, Seventh Cavalry Division, for duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY M. CIST,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CLARKSVILLE, December 21, 1861—4 p. m.

Gen. ROBERT H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My men have returned; they captured a captain, General Lyon Hopkinsville a week ago to-day with one brigade for Eddyville; left one brigade at Hopkinsville. On last Friday night Lyon had moved to within fourteen miles of Hopkinsville, and met a portion of forces that McCook had defeated at Hopkinsville. There he had a fight with McCook's advance, 350 men, and is reported to have driven a buck; have not heard from him since. Lyon had but two guns 1,200 men. McCook took one gun.

A. A. SMITH,
Colonel Eighty-third Illinois, Commanding.

MURFREESBOROUGH, December 21, 1861.

General MEACHER:

Send all the men of the Fourteenth and Forty-fourth Colored Regiments and a sergeant and twenty men of the Eighteenth Ohio Battery on their commands at Stevenson, and send by train, if you have it, 100 rations to Stevenson.

J. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

STEVENSSON, December 21, 1861.

Major-General MEACHER:

Two sections with military bridge-builders and track-layers are ordered to Decatur by Major-General Thomas to repair the road. The road agent wants a guard. I have sent all the men I could spare guards to the trains to Murfreesborough. Can I order the Sixty-eighth New York Volunteers from your district as guards?

W. KRZYZANOWSKI,
Colonel, Commanding.

STEVENSSON, December 21

Major-General MEACHER:

The places occupied by the Sixty-eighth New York Veterans will not have to be filled.

W. KRZYZANOWSKI
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Louisville, Ky., December 21, 1861.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland;

The Thirty-ninth Infantry Missouri Volunteers, ordered by General Dodge, commanding Department of the Missouri, to proceed to Nashville, Tenn., has arrived at Louisville, Ky., and I deem it proper to report that we have left several cases of small pox in hospital on our route.

ED. A. KUTZNER,
Lieutenant Colonel, Comdg. Thirty-ninth Missouri Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIANA,
Indianapolis, December 21, 1861.

Capt. C. H. POTTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cincinnati, Ohio;

CAPTAIN: There are 300 rebels at Hawesville, Ky., on the Ohio River conscripting and sending to the rebel army. It is reported that from 100 to 200 are sent south from this point daily. I respectfully ask permission to send a force to the Ohio River and drive them from the border.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALVIN P. HOVEY,
Recvt. Major-General, Commanding.

MEMPHIS, TENN., December 21, 1861.
(Received 23d.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff;

In obedience to your orders I have to-day sent all effective cavalry without a wheel accompanying them, to strike the Mobile and Oh Railroad above Tupelo, 3,500 strong. Roads in horrible condition, all weather very bad. If successful they will, if possible, destroy the road as far as Meridian, and, if considered safe, they will make a dash at Cahawba and attempt a release of our prisoners. General Griers is in command. Five thousand infantry at the same time make a feint threatening Corinth.

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General, Commanding.

MEMPHIS, TENN., December 21, 1861

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

I have to-day, general, sent all my effective cavalry, by orders of Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, to break the Mobile and Ohio Railroad at Tupelo. I have been compelled to keep an ample force of Winslow men for that object. Roads and weather very bad and the enemy some force.

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General

[DECEMBER 21, 1861.—For General Orders, No. 6, headquarters Department of Mississippi, publishing complimentary communication to General Canby to General Dana, see Part I, p. 780.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 22, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
In the Field:

I have to-day General Halleck's dispatch of yesterday and your reply. It is proper for me to assure you that this Department has the most unbounded confidence in your skill, vigor, and determination to employ to the best advantage all the means in your power to pursue and destroy the enemy. No Department could be inspired with more profound admiration and thankfulness for the great deeds you have bravely performed, or more confident both that human effort could accomplish no more than will be done by you and the gallant officers and soldiers of your command.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 22, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

In order that the Department may, as fully as the law will permit, award due promotion to your army, please forward me some time before the 5th of next month a list of such promotions as you desire to recommend. There is no vacancy in the number of major-generals allowed by law, and only two brigadiers; but brevets can be granted, and some vacancies may be created by mustering out useless officers.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., December 22, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

You have the congratulations of the public for the energy with which you are pushing Hood. I hope you will succeed in reaching his pontoon bridge at Tusculum before he gets there. Should you do it, it looks to me that Hood is cut off. If you succeed in destroying Hood's army, there will be but one army left to the so-called Confederacy capable of doing us harm. I will take care of that and try to draw the sting from it, so that in the spring we shall have easy sailing. You now have a big opportunity, which I know you are availing yourself of. Let us push and do all we can before the enemy can derive benefit either from the raising of negro troops or the concentration of white troops now in the field.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Columbia, Tenn., December 22, 1864.
(Received 2 p. m. 23d.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The Fourth Corps crossed Duck River to-day, and has advanced about two miles beyond town, in the direction of Pulaski. Cavalry will cross by daylight to-morrow and the rest of the infantry during

the day. In crossing to day we captured about 50 prisoners in a rebel hospital, with about 250 rebel wounded and about 50 of our own wounded. Prisoners, on being questioned, stated substantially that Hood's army is greatly demoralized, nearly half of which is unarmed; that the greater portion of the infantry left here two days ago for Pulaski; that five brigades of infantry and Forrest's cavalry now constitute Hood's rear guard, and this force left the vicinity of Columbia this morning upon our approach. I shall push forward rapidly in the morning, and endeavor to overtake him before he reaches the Tennessee River.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 22, 1864.

MAJ. GEN. G. H. THOMAS:

In cases where persons have been conscripted into the rebel ranks since Hood crossed the Tennessee River, and have never been sworn into their service, and have been captured, many of them, in fact, in the act of deserting, would it not be well to release them on satisfactory proof of the facts? General Webster thinks he has no power in the matter, but will act with your approval. I think it would have a good effect to set such persons at liberty. Some of these are cases of hardship. Any assistance or information in examination of these cases will be cheerfully furnished. General Webster in making his decisions us to who shall be released.

ANDREW JOHNSON,
Military Governor.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 22, 1864—1:20 p. m.

Brevet Major-General METZ,
Quartermaster-General:

Will have railroad through to Thomas' rear, at Columbia, to-night, and to Murfreesborough within a day or two. Road from Murfreesborough south all right. Trains running thence to Chattanooga and Huntsville, which we occupied yesterday. Great many cars conveying troops will reach Huntsville from Murfreesborough to-night or early in the morning, and push straight for Decatur. Will have road then, via Huntsville, repaired by Saturday.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

NASHVILLE, December 22, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Have already ordered forage forward, as requested in Captain Ramsey's telegram of the 20th; have also sent two steamer loads to Eastport with subsistence ordered there.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

NASHVILLE, December 22, 1861.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

Steamers for Eastport left last evening and ought to be at Smith-
land early to-day. I sent also some medical supplies, quartermaster's
ores, and two steamers loaded with grain.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

FRANKLIN, December 22, 1861—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have ordered three trains of forage to be sent forward to Duck
iver at once. The bridge will be done within an hour. I will be down
a first train.

WM. G. LE DUC,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

SPRING HILL, December 22, 1861—4.30 o'clock.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

GENERAL: I have arrived here with train of forage, and others fol-
owing. The bridge at Carter's Creek being destroyed, cannot go any
farther. Supplies are ordered, and will arrive as fast as possible. I
have ordered 40,000 pairs of shoes and stockings, also quartermaster's
tores, &c. A telegraph operator should be sent here at once. A tele-
graph station here is absolutely necessary.

Respectfully,

WM. G. LE DUC,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

FRANKLIN, TENN., December 22, 1861.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

We shall establish the subsistence depot at Spring Hill to-night. I
have notified the corps by telegraph. I will rejoin headquarters as
soon as possible.

EDGAR C. BEMAN,
Capt. and Actg. Chief Com. of Subsistence, Dept. of the Cumberland.

FRANKLIN, December 22, 1861—9 a. m.

General W. D. WHIPPLE:

The bridge will be finished in half an hour. It has been an awful
job to complete it.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Columbia, December 22, 1861.

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,

Superintendent of Repairs, U. S. Military Railroads:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that he has had the railroad examined to-day up to Duck River, and to give you the following as the result of the examination: The first and second bridges over Carter's Creek are but little damaged; the third is all gone but the debris, which is three quarters of a mile down the creek; the fourth all down, but wreck there; the fifth all down, and portion of wreck there. Duck River bridge gone, but trestle on south side of the river complete to the bank of the river. Between the third and fourth bridges there is a pile of bridge timber, and there is also a pile of bridge timber between the fourth and fifth bridges. The major-general commanding wishes you to make every effort and push forward the work of repairs as rapidly as possible, as it is absolutely necessary that the railroad be opened up in the shortest possible time so as to subsist and forage the army. Please acknowledge receipt.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant General.

CHATTANOOGA, December 22, 1861.

Captain RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant General:

I learn that the railroad is open to Huntsville now. I had better move by rail to Huntsville, and then by wagons to Athens. If so, I can move at once.

J. L. HOLLOPETER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 22, 1861—10.30 p. m.

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

General Thomas' headquarters broke camp this morning to cross Duck River, and at this hour his telegraph office has not been again opened, so no news from him. Trains will run to Columbia to-morrow, and railroad to Chattanooga will be repaired in a week at the latest.

J. C. VAN BUZER.

CIRCULAR.] HQQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Duck River, Tenn., December 23, 1861.

The train of the headquarters of the army in the field, including the telegraph construction train, will, while on the road, have the right of way over all other trains whatever, and all troops and trains are ordered to make way for it whenever required by the officer in charge.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 22, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I have at Knoxville about 1,000 feet of pontoon bridge, which might be made available for crossing the Tennessee, if you need it. It might be floated down, under convoy of the gun-boats, to the point where you desire to use it.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, near Columbia, Tenn., December 22, 1861.

Colonel B. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.:

COLONEL: I desire to ask the attention of the War Department to the necessity of taking some steps to preserve the organization of the Twenty-third Army Corps. The terms of service of nearly all the regiments composing it will expire during the summer and early fall of 1862. It contains only three veteran regiments and six three-years regiments organized under the call of 1861; the remainder are three-years regiments, whose terms of service are nearly expired, and new one-year regiments. I respectfully request authority to re-enlist all of my regiments and batteries which have served more than two years for one, two, or three years, as they may elect, and to grant them ten days furlough for thirty days, according to the rules heretofore observed.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 22, 1861.

Major J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant General, Department of the Ohio:

SIR: I have the honor to state, for the information of the major-general commanding, that the order directing me to proceed to Murfreesborough and take command of and move with certain regiments therein named, from that point to Columbia, Tenn., or to the Twenty-third Army Corps, and which order bore date December 19, was not received by me until the afternoon of the 21st, the orderly who brought it giving as a reason that he could not find my headquarters and the sickness of his horse. I kept the same quarters as when the corps was here, and the order would have duly reached me either by the post headquarters or Captain Stone, of General Thomas' staff. I regret to have to report that I was not able, owing to illness, to go myself to Murfreesborough, as the order required and as I presume was desired by the major-general commanding on account of the regiments having but little experience. I saw Major General Rousseau on his arrival here on the 21st, who informed me that the regiments were under competent commanders. As soon after receipt of the order as possible I sent orders by my aide-de-camp for the regiments to move at once, under the command of the senior colonel, to Columbia, or wherever the Twenty-third Army

Corps might be, and report to me at Columbia, if I should be there, which I hope to be, or if not, to the commanding officer of the corps. General Rousseau told me that, at the request of General Steedman, he had directed General Milroy to detail four of the best regiments at Murfreesborough to report to and go with General Steedman, and I fear that some of the regiments assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps may have gone with General Steedman. I directed my aide-de-camp, Mr. Hiney, to see General Milroy at once on his arrival and deliver a letter from me, and also show him my order, so that, unless too late, any of the regiments belonging to the Twenty-third Army Corps which might have been ordered to report to General Steedman could be recalled. I made an earnest appeal to General Milroy, in the event of General Steedman having left Murfreesborough, to furnish me transportation, as contemplated by my order for General Steedman to do. There is no transportation to be had here; I cannot get a wagon even for my personal baggage and that of my staff. In relation to the batteries of the First Division, I think that Captain Packlock's battery, the guns of which are to be turned in, and most of the material of which has been inspected and condemned, had better remain here until the order on the inspection is received. Captain Nicholson's battery I have directed to be ready to join the corps by the first opportunity for escort. So soon as I hear from my aide-de-camp at Murfreesborough that matters are attended to there, I shall start for Columbia. I think the regiments will be able to leave Murfreesborough by the 24th. The railroad trains are not running to Murfreesborough, and I was unable to get any escort from here until the 23d.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS H. BUGGER,

Brig. Gen. of Vols., Comdg. First Div., Twenty-third Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,

Rutherford's Creek, Tenn., December 22, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox,

Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you march your command to this place to-morrow morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,

Spring Hill, Tenn., December 22, 1861.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Army of the Ohio:

MAJOR: I have the honor to call the attention of the commanding general to the severe suffering of the line officers of the command in inclement weather like the present and under the existing rules with regard to transportation. From the time we left Nashville until last night these gentlemen had no shelter and only such food as they could obtain from the private soldiers—being far worse off than the men, since the latter had their shelter-tents and their rations

haversacks. The officers' rations and their cooking utensils are the regimental wagons, which are necessarily left behind in movements such as we have lately made, and they must either furnish themselves with knapsacks and haversacks, and carry their cooking utensils upon their own persons or those of their servants, or be utterly destitute. Even if they do this, the wagons of the commissary of subsistence are also at the rear, except upon ordinary days of sue, and it would be necessary to issue to them precisely as is done to the soldiers in the ranks, and so break down the last vestige of distinction in mode of life between them and their commands. As it is, I do what I know from personal observation when I say, that no individuals in any way connected with the army are enduring so much personal suffering and privation upon the present campaign as the fliers of the line. As I know the commanding general will be most anxious to make any arrangement which is feasible to reduce the amount of discomfort, I take the liberty of suggesting that during the winter campaign the transportation for each regiment be one wagon or regimental headquarters and for company books and papers, desks, &c., as now, and, in addition, one pack mule for each company. The pack mules make little or no obstruction in the road, are easily moved, flank or rear in case of maneuver of troops, and will be up with the command when the regiment goes into camp. Unless some such arrangement is made, I fear many of our officers will break down in health, and many more, becoming disgusted with the hardships of the service, and especially with the difference between themselves and their more fortunate brethren of the staff and staff corps, will seek to leave the army. In many commands some similar arrangements to the one I have suggested have been surreptitiously made, but as I have rightly enforced the rule turning over to the quartermaster all unauthorized mules, I am the more desirous of obtaining for the gentlemen of the line whom I have the honor to command such authority to regulate their transportation as will save them from the apparently unnecessary hardships they have of late endured, without detracting from the nobility of the division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

The suggestions of General Cox are approved, and will be carried out as soon as possible. The quartermaster will be ordered to furnish the necessary pack mules. Until this can be done the baggage wagons will move immediately after their divisions, except in case of absolute necessity.

J. M. S.

CIRCULAR.] HQS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 22, 1864.

Commanders of divisions and detached brigades will take measures immediately to send all horses that are unfit for active service back to Nashville. These horses will be inspected carefully by brigade inspectors, and will then be placed in charge of a detail of men under a competent officer. This detail will be at the rate of one man to every eight

horses. Lieutenant Fyther, special inspector of the Cavalry Bureau, is charged with this and will organize the detail. The dismounted men will be organized into a team guard, under a sufficient number of officers, and will be under the immediate control of Capt. E. B. Carl- ing, chief quartermaster of the corps.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieut. Col., Assistant Adjutant General and Acting Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, (HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 11.) MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 22, 1861.

I. Brigadier-General Hatch's division will begin crossing Duck River as soon as the bridge is completed.

II. Brigadier-General Hammond's brigade will follow the Fifth (Hatch's) Division.

III. Brigadier-General Croxson's brigade will follow General Ham- mond's.

IV. Colonel Harrison's brigade will follow General Croxson's.

V. The Cavalry Corps will go into camp two miles beyond Columbia, upon ground to be designated by the inspector of the Cavalry Corps.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUFONT,

Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

CIRCULAR, HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Near Columbia, December 22, 1861.

The order to march to night is countermanded. The head of General Hatch's column will be at the bridge to cross at 5 to morning; General Hammond's, at 7 a. m.; General Croxson's, at 8 a. m.; Colonel Harrison's, at 9 a. m.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUFONT,

Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

HOPKINSVILLE, KY., December 22, 1861—2 p. m.
(Received 1:20 p. m. 23d.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,

Secretary of War:

With Watkins' and La Grange's brigades, of my division, I have defeated General Lyon and captured or scattered the force with which he invaded Kentucky, and captured his artillery.

E. M. MCCOOK,

Brigadier General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Columbia, Tenn., December 22, 1861.

Brig. Gen. E. M. MCCOOK,

Commanding First Division, Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: As soon as you have broken up Lyon's command, proceed with your division to join the Cavalry Corps in the field. General

lyon leaves it entirely to your discretion as to when you shall abandon the pursuit of Lyon. The troops in Kentucky can take care of the arduous bands resulting from the dispersion of Lyon's command, by command of Brevet Major-General Wilson;

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HOPKINSVILLE, December 22, 1861—8.30 a. m.

to Brig. Gen. L. D. WATKINS:

The general commanding directs that you send a dispatch to Colonel Welling, directing him to return with his command without delay and bring the guides he has captured to these headquarters. I am directed to inform you that the command will not move to-day.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT LE ROY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HOPKINSVILLE, December 22, 1861.

to Brig. Gen. L. D. WATKINS:

I am instructed by the general commanding to inform you that Lyon has crossed Green River at Ashbysburg, and La Grange is in pursuit. Our command will move at 7.30 a. m. on the morning of the 23d instant. The general further directs that you inform the battery of the intended movement, and give it a place in your column. The Seventeenth Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry, Major Arneek commanding, with the exception of the company which has not yet been mustered in, and which is proceeding to Russellville for that purpose, will remain as a garrison at this place. Major Arneek will receive his instructions from these headquarters.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT LE ROY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LAUREL VIEW, KY., December 22, 1861—3 a. m.

to Brig. Gen. E. M. McCook,

Commanding First Division:

I have followed this force from about ten miles from Hopkinsville on to Butler road. Lyon, with his command, has crossed Green River, and this is a detachment of his command which was cut off. They are estimated between twenty five and forty five men. I have captured two of their guides, and both tell the same story. I have not been able to cut off any large force. Shall I follow this force to the river, or return? I will move slowly down the pike till I hear from you.

Respectfully, &c.,

GEO. WELLING,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Fourth Kentucky Cavalry.

HOPKINSVILLE, December 22, 1861.

Major ARNER,

Comdg. Seventeenth Regiment Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry.

The Seventeenth Regiment Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry, with the exception of that portion of it which has not yet been mustered in, will remain at Hopkinsville and garrison that place until it receives orders from Lieutenant Colonel Johnson or other superior authority. The portion not yet mustered will march directly to Russellville. You will give proper receipts for all rations or forage that you may take from citizens for the use of your command. You will not abandon the place without orders, unless attacked by a much superior force.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General.

HOPKINSVILLE, December 22, 1861.

Col. O. H. LA GRANGE.

I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that the command moves tomorrow to Trenton, and will probably move from there to Nashville. Any dispatches addressed to me at Russellville or Nashville will reach me. If you come back through Hopkinsville you will move directly to Nashville by easy marches, and notify him there of your coming.

I am, colonel, your obedient servant.

ROBERT LE ROY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HQRS. 2D DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 39. } MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Louisville, Ky., December 22, 1861.

I. Maj. D. D. Marquis, Ninety-eighth Illinois Volunteers, having been assigned to duty at Saint Louis, Mo., by orders from the War Department, is hereby relieved from duty as assistant inspector-general on the staff of the brigadier general commanding.

II. Capt. Jesse N. Squire, Third Ohio Cavalry, having reported in obedience with Special Orders, No. 108, from these headquarters, is hereby announced as assistant inspector-general of this division, subject to the approval of the corps commander.

III. Capt. O. O. Starkweather, One hundred and twenty-third Illinois Volunteers, having reported in obedience with Special Orders, No. 108, from these headquarters, is hereby announced as provost-marshal of this division.

By command of Brig. Gen. Eli Long:

T. W. SCOTT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Columbia, December 22, 1861.

Brigadier-General Upton,

Comdg. Fourth Division, Cavalry Corps, Memphis, Tenn.:

Take with you to Louisville the Third and Fourth Iowa, Tenth and Twelfth Missouri, the Sixth Tennessee, and Nineteenth Pennsylvania.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,

QQRS. FIRST BRIG., SEVENTH DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Columbia, December 22, 1861.

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

MAJOR: Pursuant to an order to examine the railroad and bridges en route to Duck River, and including Duck River bridge, sent two officers for that duty. They report the track in good condition; three bridges burned: one of 160 feet length trestle, one 300 feet, one 250 feet; the last entirely washed away, so that they could not reach Duck River bridge. They are devising measures to reach the bridge, and will do so in a short time. I will then give a detailed report of the condition of the whole track.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

(Forwarded to Major General Thomas.)

CHRISTIANA, December 22, 1861.

MAJOR-GENERAL THOMAS:

I have just reached this point after being detained forty-two hours at Newfreesborough waiting transportation from the south. The delay was doubtless occasioned by the damage to the road by enemy. The day after my occupation of Decatur on night of December 20, by a force estimated from 2,000 to 4,000, said to be Roddey's. I will cross my force on transports above Decatur, drive him out, and move to Florence as fast as possible.

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

CHRISTIANA, December 22, 1861.

MAJOR-GENERAL MEAGHER:

Have you shipped the 50,000 rations to Stevenson for me? Answer.

JAS. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

CHATTANOOGA, December 22, 1861.

MAJOR-GENERAL STEEDMAN:

The detachment of the Fourteenth and Forty-fourth Colored Infantry I go forward at daylight to-morrow. No men of the Eighteenth Ohio Battery can be found at the post, as I am informed by Major Church. 60 rations have been ordered and will go forward by the same train.

THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER,
Brigadier-General.

CHATTANOOGA, December 22, 1861.

MAJOR-GENERAL STEEDMAN:

The detachment of the Eighteenth Ohio Battery has been found, and sergeant and twenty men ordered to report to you at Stevenson by first train.

THOS. FRANCIS MEAGHER,
Brigadier-General.

ON BOARD STEAMER STONE RIVER,
Off Whitesburg, December 23, 1861.

Brigadier General WHITFIELD:

Owing to the unusually severe weather, high winds, snow, and fogs, my miserable fleet of transports could not be gotten to Decatur until 15 m. to-day, where I found the enemy, advised of our approach, had been largely reinforced, his garrison being now 2,000, and his guns increased to nine, three heavy pieces added to his field battery. My command, from exposure on boats, is reduced to 1,700. I have on this account not believed it practicable to assault the works until I can be reinforced by General Steedman. My forces have possession of the road to Huntsville. The railroad bridges and roads in running order to that place. General Lyon reported that Roubley was ordered to hold Huntsville at all hazards, and also informed that it was Hood's intention to make Decatur his main position, with his right resting at Huntsville.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Duck River, December 23, 1861.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. MILLER,
Commanding Post of Nashville:

GENERAL: Your communication of the 21st instant, concerning the disposition to be made of those men of the Army of Savannah, and others, has been received. You will issue the orders from your office sending the men to Savannah, stating in the order that it is pursuant to instructions from the major-general commanding the department. You can commence forwarding the detachments immediately. The major-general commanding thinks it is best that the detachments belonging to the army here who were left behind guarding property be kept together in the camp you have established, until their respective commanders send for them. In the meantime you will exercise control over them. The garrison of Nashville will not be diminished at present but will be temporarily increased by those Missouri regiments now on their way there, and which you can retain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHITFIELD,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., December 23, 1861—6 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I think it would be appropriate now to confer on General Thom the vacant major-generalcy in the Regular Army. He seems to be pushing Hood with energy, and I doubt not but he will complete destiny that nerve.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., *December 23,* 1861—8 p. m.*

(Received 1 a. m. 25th.)

Gen. E. M. STANTON,

Secretary of War, Washington, D. C. :

Your two dispatches of 9 p. m. 23d instant are received. I am profoundly thankful for the hearty expression of your confidence in my determination and desire to do all in my power to destroy the enemy and put down the rebellion, and, in the name of this army, I thank you for the complimentary notice you have taken of all connected with it or the deeds of valor they have performed. I will forward the list of meritorious officers to-morrow or next day.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

*Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.*COLUMBIA, TENN., *December 23, 1861—8 p. m.*

(Received 11.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

Washington, D. C. :

The troops are still crossing Duck River, and are close up to the enemy's rear guard, on the Pulaski road. I hope to get the whole force across to-morrow and continue the pursuit. The railroad bridges between Spring Hill and this place (five in number) have been destroyed, but the construction corps is hard at work, and I am in hopes they will have the road repaired up to Columbia in the course of four or five days. The railroad between Chattanooga and Murfreesborough is in running order, and I am assured that the road between Nashville and Murfreesborough will be repaired in a few days. General McCook has routed and scattered the rebel General Lyon, who succeeded in crossing the Cumberland River, and, with General Long, will soon join General Wilson, thus increasing my cavalry force sufficiently to enable me to completely destroy Forrest, if I can overtake him, which I shall make every exertion to do.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Columbia, December 23, 1861—8 a. m.

Governor ANDREW JOHNSON,

Military Governor of Tennessee, Nashville :

Your telegram of yesterday is received. The major-general commanding directs me to say in reply that in cases where the persons arrested are known to be sincere in their sympathies for the United States, and have really been forced into the rebel service during Hood's last movement, against their will, it will be well enough to release them, as you suggest.

Very respectfully,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

* So dated in Thomas' record book, but in Stanton's received it is the 24th.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Duck River, December 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,

Nashville.

You are authorized to withdraw a portion of the Fifteenth U. S. Colored Troops from Edgetfield and Kentucky railroad, for duty in Nashville.

WM. D. WHITTLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Duck River, December 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,

Nashville.

Stop the steamers headed for Eastport at Paducah, unless the gun-boats have gone up the Tennessee, when they might as well go along; if stopped, orders will be sent regarding them hereafter, when it is definitely ascertained what is Hood's route.

WM. D. WHITTLE,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.**NASHVILLE, December 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland.

Telegram received. The steamers for Eastport had orders not to go up the Tennessee River unless convoyed by gun-boats; had written orders to report to commanding officer of gun-boats for that purpose on arriving at Paducah. Will, however, telegraph to Paducah as you directed. Boats had ordered to Eastport with rations, medical supplies, forage, and ordnance stores are still here; were to leave tonight; will hold till further orders.

J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Columbio, December 23, 1864—8 a. m.

Lieut. J. L. HOLLOPETER,

Actg. Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the Cumberland, Chattanooga.

Your telegram of yesterday is received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that you had better wait until you learn of the occupation of Huntsville or Athens before you move, so that you will run no risk.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,

No. 348. }

Duck River, Tenn., December 23, 1864.

I. Col. W. B. Gw, Sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops, will proceed with his regiment to Chattanooga, Tenn., and report to Colonel Carlton,

commanding post, for engineer duty on fortifications at that place. He will make such returns as Colonel Carlton may require, but will be considered simply on detailed duty. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * *

V. The Thirty-fourth New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Lawrence commanding, is hereby relieved from duty at Paducah, Ky., and will proceed up the Cumberland River, acting as guards to steam-boats, to Nashville, Tenn. Upon its arrival at that place the commanding officer will report without delay to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding detachment Army of the Tennessee.

* * * * *

By command of Major General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, Tenn., December 23, 1861—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I am just starting on the march. I wish to move six or eight miles out on the Pulaski pike, to get out of the way of the cavalry and such other troops as may cross to-night. I do not think the cavalry will all get over the river much before dark. Please allow the remnant of my artillery and trains to cross the pontoons to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Squire Mack's, Five Miles from Columbia,
December 23, 1861—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I advanced the corps five miles upon the Pulaski pike, and occupy a position about two miles in advance of the cavalry. The position is a gorge between ridges closing down on either side of the road. The gorge was occupied by a force of rebel cavalry, about a brigade, which was readily dispersed by the advance of a skirmish line and a section of artillery. Casualties, so far as known, one rebel captain mortally wounded, who fell into our hands. I will wait to-morrow morning a reasonable time for the cavalry to move out, and if it does not do so I will advance down the pike toward Pulaski.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, Tenn., December 23, 1861—7 a. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Corps for to-day, December 23, 1861:

This command will make immediate preparations to march, and will move as soon as the cavalry passes by on the Pulaski road, in the following order: First, General Knudsen's division; then General Elliott's division; then General Beatty. Each division will be followed by one battery, five ammunition wagons, ten ambulances, four wagons for division headquarters, and three for each brigade. Two wagons and two ambulances for corps headquarters will follow the leading division. If any other wagons than those specified are put in the column, all will be thrown out and be required to march with the baggage train. Artillery Brigade headquarters will follow the batteries, and the batteries, save the three with the divisions, will follow the troops.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FELLERTON,
Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pick. River, Tenn., December 23, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps.

GENERAL: The major general commanding the department directs that you issue five days' rations to 200 sick and wounded, our own and rebel, in hospital at Columbia. All wagons, emptied, can be immediately sent back to Spring Hill to reload.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, 1 **HUGHES, ARMY OF THE OHIO,**
No. 135. *Near Columbia, Tenn., December 23, 1861.*

I. General Orders, No. 60, current series, headquarters Department of the Ohio, are hereby modified to read as follows: One wagon will be allowed for each regimental headquarters and for carrying company books, papers, &c., and one pack mule to each company of infantry to carry officers' baggage.

* * * * *

IV. The chief quartermaster of the army in the field will furnish the wagons and pack-mules required to carry out the provisions of paragraph I, Special Field Orders, No. 135, current series, from those headquarters, as soon as practicable, and, until the pack-mules are furnished the baggage wagons will habitually move with the divisions.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Rutherford's Creek, Tenn., December 23, 1861.

[aj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you send your wagon train at once across Rutherford's Creek and forward toward Columbia; also, that you have your command in readiness to march at any moment. Further orders will be sent you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 23, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your division in readiness and move forward at 4 a. m. to-morrow morning, December 24, in rear of Second Division, taking with you all your train and all pertaining to your command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 J. HOUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 23, 1861.

Brig. Gen. K. GARRARD,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your division in readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 24, at 3 a. m., taking with you your train and all pertaining to your command, and proceed to cross the pontoon. It matters not what is in your road, break your way through. You will take up the line of march promptly, taking the advance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 J. HOUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 23, 1861.

Col. J. B. MOORE,
Commanding Third Division:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 24, at 5 a. m., taking with you all your train and all pertaining to your command, in rear of First Division. You will take up the two regiments of your command on provost duty at Columbia, Tenn.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 J. HOUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Columbia, December 23, 1861.

Major-General WILSON,

Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

SIR: Two scouts from these headquarters who crossed the river yesterday and have been some seven miles south of this place have just come in. They report that the entire rebel army has gone on the turnpike from this point to Paducah; at that place it is reported that they were to divide the infantry going to Lamb's Ferry, eighteen miles below Florence, while their transportation and artillery go to Decatur. They report that the artillery horses have all given out, and the guns are being hauled by oxen. They report Forrest's cavalry as being in fair condition, but state that the citizens say it does not amount to more than 1,500 mounted, while their dismounted force is some 3,500. The bulk of the latter are very much out of spirits; they are without shoes, and would give themselves up, if pushed. The major-general commanding directs that this information be furnished you for such action as you deem advisable. If the guns are hauled by oxen your cavalry may be able to overtake them, and add them to those we already have.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY M. CIST,

Assistant Adjutant General.

CAVALRY BUREAU, OFFICE OF SPECIAL INSPECTOR,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Louisville, Ky., December 23, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 19th instant, and to state in reply that I have this day written to Major Price on the subject of arming all the cavalry in the Military Division of the Mississippi with the Spencer carbine. I inclose to him your letter, with the urgent request that everything be done possible to carry your wishes into effect. I have asked him to inform me at once what can be done, and how many of that arm I may expect monthly. As soon as his answer is received I will communicate the same to you, so that you can see what to expect. I shall continue to do all in my power, general, not only to meet your wishes, but in all things to try and keep your corps as well mounted and equipped as possible, and that with as little delay (as possible). If everything has not been done that was desired, you may rest assured it was because the means was not at my command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. CHAMBERS,

Maj. 4th U. S. Cav. and Special Insp. Cav., Mil. Div. of the Miss.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS,
No. 12.HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Warfield House, December 23, 1861.

I. The Cavalry Corps will move to-morrow morning in pursuit of the enemy, in the following order:

First, General Croxton's brigade, on the Paducah pike, at 5 a. m., followed by General Hammond's brigade at 5.30, by Hatch at 6, and Colonel Harrison at 6.30.

11. The whole command will pass by the front of the infantry, and, when the enemy is encountered, will dispose itself for attack in the following manner: Croston and Hammond on the right of the road, Hatch on the left, and Harrison ready to act on either flank. It is expected that the infantry under General Wood will be close enough to make all direct attacks, and leave the cavalry to operate on the flanks and rear of the enemy's rear guard.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

TRENTON, December 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

I divided my force near Princeton, and sent La Grange toward Green River. He struck Lyon's rear crossing Green River, got his train, some prisoners, and drowned some. Part of his command scattered, and are trying to get through to the Cumberland River in small squads. My men will scour the country to pick them up. Lyon has lost fully all his command, and La Grange is on the other side of Green River in pursuit of the rest. I left a garrison, from Johnson's (Seventeenth Kentucky) regiment, at Hopkinsville, and will move by easy marches from here toward Nashville, unless an order from you directs otherwise. A telegraph sent to Russellville will catch me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(Same to Brevet Major-General Wilson.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SEVENTH DIVISION,
Near Columbia, December 23, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report my whole command in camp. Good camp and water, but, arriving after dark, find trouble in getting forage, but will, I think, obtain a feed. The column having passed General Wilson's headquarters too far to turn back, I have placed it on the right of the pike half a mile, say two miles south of headquarters, on Hatch's right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Columbia, December 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. STEEDMAN,

Stevenson, Ala.:

(To be forwarded.)

Your telegram of yesterday is received. The major-general commanding directs me to say in reply that your proposed movement meets his approbation, and that the reported occupation of Decatur by t

enemy is substantially the same as has been learned here. There is a report, and corroborated by prisoners who have been separately examined, that Hood will attempt to cross the Tennessee at Decatur. If this report be found correct, and you are able to detain him until these forces get up, or prevent his crossing altogether, by destroying his bridge, the major general commanding hopes to capture and destroy the greater portion, if not all, Hood's army.

Respectfully,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HUNTSVILLE, December 22, 1864—5 p. m.

Major General STEEDMAN,

Northern or Parkersville:

I have reports which are entitled to some credit that Forrest is advancing on us from the north and will attack early to-morrow morning. I have sent out scouts.

WM. P. LYON,
Colonel, Commanding.

HUGHES, MEMPHIS AND CHARLESTON RAILROAD DEFENSES,
Huntsville, December 23, 1864.

Lieut. SAMUEL M. KNEELAND,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Whitesburg, Ala.:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of last evening at 5 o'clock this morning. The last we heard of General Steedman's command was that the advanced trains had passed Decatur at about 7 o'clock last evening. The wires are all right, but we get no response from any point east this morning. Three construction trains came over the road yesterday from Chattanooga, and are now here. Steedman's command will be delayed some to get wood and water, but will doubtless commence arriving here in a few hours. We hear nothing of the condition of the railroad toward Decatur, only that it is intact for six miles below, except that a small culvert is injured. All quiet here. We had a second-hand negro report last evening that the enemy were bringing up troops by rail to Indian Creek with the intention of attacking us. A scouting party last evening in that direction failed to see anything of him. Colonel Prosser has gone this morning with the most of his command on a more extended scout in that direction. We scouted yesterday several miles on Fayetteville and Athens roads, but did not find any enemy. We got no news of either Hood or Thomas. The success of Colonel Prosser's command will account for the small escort sent the general. All is quiet, however, in that direction. I am at the Wheeldon House, and shall be happy to entertain general and any of his staff who may accompany him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

WM. P. LYON,
Colonel Thirteenth Wisconsin Vet. Vol. Infantry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Duck River, December 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. F. MILLER,
Nashville:

Retain all baggage and detachments in charge of same belonging to his army in one camp at Nashville. Have written you. Forward baggage belonging to General Sherman's army to New York, with detachments in charge.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
 AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., December 23, 1864.

No. 1. I. The following regiments will report to Colonel Thomas, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and proceed, under his command, to Columbia, Tenn., in obedience to paragraph 1, Special Field Orders, No. 182, from headquarters Army of the Ohio, December 19, 1864, viz: One hundred and seventy-fourth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and seventy-seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and seventy-eighth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and eighty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and fortieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

* * * * *

By command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST TENNESSEE AND
 FOURTH DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Knoxville, Tenn., December 23, 1864.

Col. C. G. HAWLEY,
First Ohio Heavy Artillery:

COLONEL: It is my intention to send your regiment some fifteen or twenty miles in front of Strawberry Plains, near the French Broad River, for the purpose of protecting the working party on the opposite side, &c. You had better get your knapsacks, &c., soon to make your men comfortable, as the march will be short, and if rapid movement is required at any time the supplies can be left in camp, as it is not probable that more than two companies will be required at one time. Sixty rounds of cartridges ought to be taken. You will be able to subsist on the country to a great extent, wheat and corn being abundant and good mills convenient. You will please be ready to move as soon as practicable—say Monday or Tuesday. You will take about three days' rations with you of bread. Of coffee, sugar, salt, &c., you had better take at least ten or fifteen days'. If you can drive along, or perhaps it may be procured in the country, but this is uncertain. I will advise you what to take in time. Please prepare to move, so far as clothing, ammunition, &c., is concerned.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. AMMEN.

PAIDUCAN, December 23, 1861.

Brigadier-General WHITTELL,

Assistant Adjutant General.

GENERAL: The Third Illinois Cavalry have been ordered from this place, leaving here a detachment of Kentucky State Guard, whose time expires next week, thus leaving only seventy mounted men in this district. I would respectfully request leave to retain the detachment of Merrill's Horse, numbering 200 men, now at Paducah, Mo.

N. MEREDITH,

Brigadier General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY COMMISSIONER: LOUISVILLE,

Louisville, Ky., December 24, 1861.

Capt. E. B. HARRIS,

Assistant Adjutant General.

CAPTAIN: Three soldiers escaped here today from Hartford, Ky., where they, together with the small garrison there, were captured and paroled by the rebel General Lyon on the 20th instant. They inform me that Lyon was there with his whole force and moved them in the direction of Bowling Green. They estimated his forces at 5,000—so much, certainly. The garrison was small, but a detachment from the Fifty-second Kentucky. McCook was reported as crossing Green River in pursuit.

I am, very respectfully,

THOMAS B. FAIRLEIGH,

Lieut. Col. Twenty-sixth Kentucky Regt., Military Commander.

HEADQUARTERS SOUTHERN DEPARTMENT,

Cincinnati, Ohio, December 23, 1861.

Brig. Maj. Gen. A. P. Hovey,

Commanding District of Indiana, Indianapolis, Ind.:

GENERAL: I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated December 21, 1861, requesting that permission be granted you to send a force from your command across the Ohio River, to drive from the border a rebel force of 100 men reported at Hawesville, Ky. and in reply to state, that your letter has been referred to the commanding officer at Louisville, requesting him to send a force to capture or drive from the (border) the band of rebels referred to. The general commanding feels a delicacy in sending a force into another department. The commanding officer at Louisville was notified that force would be sent from this department if requested by him.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. POTTER,

Assistant Adjutant General.

6 President has directed your nomination to be sent to the Senate as major-general in the U. S. Army, to fill the only vacancy existing that grade. No official duty has been performed by me with more distinction, and no commander has more justly earned promotion by voted, disinterested, and valuable service to his country.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

COLUMBIA, TENN., December 24, 1864—8 a. m.

lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,

City Point:

Your telegram of 23d instant is just received. I am now, and will continue to push Hood as rapidly as the state of the weather and winds will permit. I am really very hopeful that either General Steedman or Admiral Lee will reach the Tennessees in time to destroy Hood's pontoon bridge, in which event I shall certainly be able to capture or destroy almost the entire army now with Hood.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HQQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

McKum's Church, Pulaski Road, Tenn.,

December 24, 1864—11 p. m.

(Received 9 p. m. 25th.)

lieut. Gen. H. W. HALL-HECK,

Washington, D. C.:

Have just heard from General Wilson, who was, at 5:30 p. m., six miles from Pulaski. He had been driving Forrest all day, without being able to bring him to an engagement. Late in the evening he made a short stand north of Richland Creek, but Croxton got in on his left and compelled him to retire precipitately to the south side of the creek, where he made a second short stand, but was again driven back. Croxton captured a few prisoners. Forrest has under his command as rear guard Brown's and Walthall's divisions of infantry, and Buford's and Jackson's divisions of cavalry. The infantry encamped last night north of Lynamville, and will probably encamp at Pulaski to-night. A few regiments of Hatch's division, sent to Mount Pleasant and Campbellsville, encountered a force of cavalry at the latter place. The force will be directed to continue the march in the direction of Lawrenceburg and La Fayette. Brigadier General McCook reports from Trenton, Ky., that he had encountered the rebel General Lyon and scattered his command, except a few that crossed Green River with Lyon, going north, which latter Colonel La Grange encountered near where he crossed Green River, whipping it badly, capturing his train, and driving his rear guard into the river, killing some and causing others to be drowned. It appears, however, from a telegram of the agent of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to Brigadier General Donaldson, of this date, that a rebel force, supposed to be Lyon's, had captured Nolin's Station, on that road, burned Nolinville bridge, and captured a train of cars. As General Long has either left Louisville or will leave to-morrow, I will telegraph him to look after this rebel force as he comes down.

Advisers have been received from General Croghan to the 22d Inst. His forces had possession of the railroad as far as Huntsville, but he has learned that the enemy had possession of Decatur with a force of 2,000 men, and his force only numbering 1,200, he deemed it more prudent to await the arrival of General Sherman, daily expected, before moving against Decatur.

LESLIE H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding

WASHINGTON, December 21, 1864—2,30 p. m.

Major, Gen. L. H. THOMAS,

Commanding Department of the Cumberland;

Applications are made by Governors of States to raise new regiments of volunteers under the recent call for 400,000 men by new regiments. The desire of the Department has been, as far as practicable, to recruit for old regiments, and thus keep up their organization. If any authorization to raise new regiments are given, the Secretary of War desires your views on the subject. Please reply fully by graph.

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 21, 1864

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland;

Three Missouri regiments have just arrived. Do you want them to go to the front, or shall they return to Missouri?

HENRY STONE,
Assistant Adjutant-General

NASHVILLE, December 21, 1864

General WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff;

Agent of Louisville road reports rebel General Lyon at Nolichucky, beyond Sonora, having burned Nolichucky bridge and captured the cars there yesterday; also burned Glendale Depot and pillaged generally. Lyon reported at 1,500 strong, and no Union force near. Up trains from here to-day stopped at Cave City.

J. L. DUNALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 21, 1864

General W. D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff;

In order to sustain and provide for wants of army, I have as officer, Capt. F. H. Ruger, assistant quartermaster, to take charge advance depot of army, to establish himself and stores as far

always as he can, and so follow you up as railroad progresses. Have sent two other officers to report to him to-day. 'Twenty days' grain on hand and plenty of subsistence.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, 1 HQRS. DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 349. *McKane's Church, Tenn., Dec. 21, 1861.*

1. The Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry will proceed to Nashville, Tenn., and there await the arrival of the Second Cavalry Division, to which it belongs.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Three Miles from Tiptonville, December 21, 1861—11.40 a. m.
Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Commanding Fourth Corps:

GENERAL: From the nature of the ground I find it impossible to move off of the turnpike, and as the head of my column is constantly skirmishing with the enemy's rear guard my progress is necessarily slow. I beg, therefore, that you will not become impatient, as I am pushing forward as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Duck River Bridge, December 21, 1861—1 p. m.

General Wood:

Our trains are just getting in with six days' rations. I saw General Thomas, but he would not give an order for supply train to pass to the exclusion of other trains. The bridge broke many times last night and this a. m., but is working well this p. m. The troops of A. J. Smith are all over, but not his batteries. The cavalry train is passing now, and will get over by dark, if the bridge continues to work well; then Smith's batteries pass over; then comes our turn. I have ordered three days' rations to be got ready, and will cross them first and hurry them forward. General Thomas said we were better off for rations than the rest of the troops, and must wait our turn. If nothing happens to the bridge to-night the rations will get up to-morrow. I would suggest, however, that the men be a little saving of their rations, for fear of some accident. We will do everything we can to get the rations forward, though. They are just going to work putting down another bridge. Fished out three pieces of artillery from the river this morning.

I am, your obedient servant,

WM. H. SE
Assistant Ad.

prison of the town. Provost guards will be established at once, and a place, as far as possible, protected while our troops are passing rough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Forwarded to Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
McKane's Church, December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major general commanding directs that the trains of cavalry command and the Fourth Army Corps be permitted to cross a pontoon bridge before all other trains or troops. These commands know two and a half and four miles beyond Lynnvville, and will be out provisions to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, Detachment Army of the Tennessee.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request permission to send to Washington an officer, with nine non-commissioned officers and privates of the Twenty-third Corps, to deliver to the War Department nine stand of colors captured from the enemy at Franklin, November 30, 1864. The men I propose to send are those who captured the flags, or the representatives of the captors in cases where the particular soldier is not known.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: At the end of the Atlanta campaign I recommended three colonels commanding brigades in the Twenty-third Army Corps for promotion to the rank of brigadier-general.* These recommendations were approved by Major-General Sherman, and forwarded to Washington with his official report. No one of the three has yet been appointed,

* See Vol. XXXIX, Part II, p. 386.

and only one of them, Col. John S. Casement, One Hundred and Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, Third Division, now remains on duty in the field. In the battle of Franklin, November 30, and in the battles in front of Nashville, December 15 and 16, Colonel Casement has given additional evidence of his gallantry and efficiency as a brigade commander. I therefore have the honor to renew my recommendation for his promotion, and respectfully request that it may be forwarded with your favorable endorsement to the War Department.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Major-General,

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
One Mile South of Lyonville, December 24, 1861—2 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I am driving the enemy rapidly, without much fighting.
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General,

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Richland Creek, Seven Miles from Pulaski,
December 24, 1861—3.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our advance is between five and six miles from Pulaski. We have driven Forrest all day without bringing him to an engagement. Late this evening he made a short stand north of Richland Creek, but Croxton got in on their left and compelled them to retire precipitately to the south side of the creek, where they made another short stand, but were again driven back. Croxton captured a few prisoners, and among them Captain Turk, Inspector general of one of Buford's (Lyon's old) brigades. The ladies at whose house I have headquarters, relatives of General Buford, say that he received a slight flesh wound in the leg but is still able to ride. Forrest has under his command as rear guard Brown's and Walthall's divisions of infantry, Buford's and Jackson's divisions of cavalry. The infantry camped north of Lyonville last night, and marched from there at about 9 a. m., and I have heard of it all along from citizens, who say it was marching rapidly for Pulaski where it will probably camp to night. The regiment sent by General Hatch toward Mount Pleasant and Campbellsville encountered a force of cavalry at the latter place. I will direct them to move to-morrow toward Lawrenceburg, and will send a party to-morrow toward La Fayette. The rebels have burned the railroad bridges as far down as this but we crowded them so closely that they were unable to destroy the pike bridge across Richland. Our progress has not been as rapid to-day as I expected, but it was rather from the difficult nature of the country than the resistance of the enemy. I will push out at an early hour in the morning and try to get in on their flanks if possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Richland Creek, Tenn., December 21, 1864—6 p. m.
 Major-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from Armstrong's brigade says he heard Gen. Armstrong say this morning that Hood was moving the main force of the rebel army toward Decatur, and that their troops had begun crossing there yesterday. The deserter also says that it is the impression among the troops that the trains were sent to cross at Florence, and supposed that Chalmers' division is on the Pleasant Hill and Lawrenceburg road. The stories of the rebels in regard to Sherman's situation are ludicrous. They say he offered to surrender his whole command, provided they were paroled. The Confederates refused to take him on these terms. They say they have "gobbled" him, and that Hargraves is going to reinforce Hood with the militia 25,000 strong, and captured a battle flag.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
McKane's Church, Pulaski Road, December 21, 1864—10.30 p. m.
 J. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdg. Cav. Corps, Mil. Div. of the Miss., Richland Creek:

Your dispatch of this 5.30 p. m. is received, and the major-general commanding directs me to say that your intention to push on in the morning is approved. It would be well for you to continue a pretty strong force covering your right. Your progress is not considered slow, under the circumstances, but, on the contrary, is quite satisfactory to the major-general commanding. Such orders have been given as are needed will bring up your trains by to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
 FIELD ORDERS, } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 No. 13. } *Richland Creek, Tenn., December 21, 1864.*

The Cavalry Corps will move to-morrow in pursuit of the enemy, in the following order:

I. Harrison's brigade, in advance, at 5 a. m., followed by Hammond's, and then Hatch's division, and then Croxton's brigade.

II. When the country will permit of it the command will move off en masse by the flanks of brigades in the following order, from right to left: General Croxton, General Hammond, Colonel Harrison, General Hatch, batteries and ambulances and wagons moving upon the pike.

III. Every effort should be made to push the enemy as rapidly as possible.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, December 21, 1861.

(Received Allen Smith's house 11 a. m. 25th.)

Brigadier-General McCook,

Commanding First Cavalry Division, Hendersonville, Ky.:

Have your horses shod at Nashville, and report in person to General Wilson.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

J. P. WILLARD,

COLUMBIA, TENN., December 21, 1861.

Brig. Gen. Eli Loring:

Please keep me advised of your movements.

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General,

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Richland Creek, December 21, 1861—6 p. m.

Brigadier-General Hatch,

Commanding Fifth Division:

GENERAL: Direct a brigade of your division which is now at Campbellville to push early to-morrow morning on the road toward Lawrenceburg. Charge the commanding officer especially to investigate and report whether the enemy may not have moved his trains and put his force in that direction.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SEVENTH DIVISION,

December 21, 1861

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have found a splendid camp; lots of shelter and food. Am close against General Croxton's right; his men, the Eighth Ia being his right flank regiment, had gone into camp and was fed when my staff officer arrived from General Wilson. Striking a south course, I am two miles and a half from Richland Creek and a mile and a half from the pike. The bearer will bring orders. People think that Richland Creek is fordable in my front.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,

Brevet Brigadier-General

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Duck River, December 21, 1864.

Major-General ROUSSEAU,
Commanding District of Tennessee, Nashville:

The Fifteenth Kentucky Infantry is either at Chattanooga or has been ordered out. The major-general commanding directs that you send once to Columbia sufficient troops to garrison the same and to protect a railroad as fast as it is repaired.

HENRY M. CRISP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 21, 1864.*

Capt. H. M. CRISP,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have ordered the One hundred and seventy-fifth Ohio to Columbia, to garrison that post and the block-houses this side not already occupied by the Seventy-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers. I will also send the Twenty-first Indiana Battery to Columbia; also to take up old position. If any more troops are needed on that road I do not know here to get them, unless I am allowed to withdraw the Forty-third Wisconsin from Clarksville, which was put there by order of General Thomas. That regiment was formerly at Johnsonville.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 21, 1864.

Major MULLENB, *Commanding Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry:*

MAJOR: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed with your regiment to Columbia, occupying the block-houses or their positions between that place and Franklin not occupied by the Seventy-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. Your regiment should move without unnecessary delay.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 21, 1864.

Capt. A. P. ANDREW,
Commanding Twenty-first Indiana Battery:

CAPTAIN: The major-general commanding directs that you take up your old position in the fort at Columbia, with such guns as you have or may be furnished with by the ordnance department. The One hundred and seventy-fifth Ohio, now in camp near Fort Negley, has orders to proceed to Columbia, and if your battery gets ready in time, may move with it.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *December 21, 1861—8.30 p. m.*

Maj. T. T. BOKERT:

Enemy still in the vicinity of Elizabethtown, coming toward Muldraugh's Hill, where there are two high trestles, which they want to burn. Re-enforcements have been sent there to defend the place, but have fears will not be enough. Reported that Nolin's bridge and two other small ones have been destroyed near the town.

SAM. BRUCH.

SPECIAL ORDERS, 1 HOURS, MILITARY DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY,
No. 99. *Lexington, Ky., December 21, 1861.*

1. The One hundred and twenty second U. S. Colored Infantry is assigned to the Second Division, Military District of Kentucky. The commanding officer will report for orders to Brig. Gen. Hugh Ewing, commanding Second Division.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. S. G. Burbridge:

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MULDRAUGH'S HILL, *December 21, 1861.*

Brig. Gen. HUGH EWING,
Louisville, Ky.:

Latest intelligence: General Lyon has his headquarters half a mile northeast of Elizabethtown, on the Bardstown turnpike. His force divided—part on Bardstown pike, the other part west of railroad; evidently intends to attack from both front and rear; is waiting for re-enforcements; intends to move soon as they reach; has six pieces 12-pounder brass guns. Probably he intends to be in readiness to open on us by daybreak in the morning.

CHAS. E. BEHLE,
Major, Commanding.

MULDRAUGH'S HILL, *December 21, 1861.*

Brig. Gen. HUGH EWING,
Louisville, Ky.:

The latest report that I have is that General Lyon's force is this side Elizabethtown. He captured about 200 Federal soldiers at that place and paroled them. His force was estimated at 2,500, with three 12-pounder howitzers, at any rate, and perhaps more artillery. Paroled prisoners state his men were talking confidently of capturing the bridges and forts at Muldraugh's Hill to day. Lyon's headquarters were a mile this side of Elizabethtown, I judge on the Bardstown turnpike, this morning, after leaving Elizabethtown. I think his entire force is east of the railroad. From the Bardstown turnpike he can strike easily either Forts Sanders, Boyle, or Jones. Have made all preparations possible with the small force we have. Think Lyon's force marched and worked all night, and that they have been resting during this forenoon a short distance this side of Elizabethtown.

H. F. POTTER,
Captain, Commanding.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 21, 1861.

Capt. H. F. POTTER,

Commanding Murfreesboro' Hill.

Hold out as long as a shot is left. Reinforcements are on the way. The bridges at Rolling Fork, Rolling Fork, and the trestle at the Hill must be preserved. Telegraph to the adjoining commands to fight to the last.

HUGH EWING,
Brigadier-General.

MURFREESBORO' HILL, December 21, 1861.

Brig. Gen. HUGH EWING,

Louisville, Ky.

Have just received intelligence that the rebels are marching this way from Elizabethtown. Have sent a lieutenant and forty men to Rolling Fork bridge.

H. F. POTTER,
Captain, &c.

MURFREESBORO' HILL, December 21, 1861.

Brig. Gen. HUGH EWING,

Louisville, Ky.

Latest news: From 2,000 to 3,000 rebels in Elizabethtown, with five or six pieces of artillery; have full possession of the place; captured and burned hospital train. Will have things in as good shape as possible to receive attack.

H. F. POTTER,
Captain, Twelfth U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, Commanding.

COCKSOD HILL, KY., December 21, 1861.

Brig. Gen. H. EWING,

Louisville, Ky.

There is a force of rebels, with two pieces of artillery. They have taken Elizabethtown and are marching in this direction.

J. F. LAY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

COLEMANBURG, KY., December 21, 1861.

Brigadier-General EWING,

Louisville, Ky.

Lyon, with 3,000 troops and three batteries, is [at] Elizabethtown. I am going to fall back on the fort with my stores.

J. F. LAY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

COLUMBIA, *December 21, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. HUGH EWING,
Louisville, Ky.:

Just arrived here with 200 men. Will go into Forts Sands and Boyle and send out to watch his movements. General Lyon's headquarters are a mile north of Elizabethtown. Forces estimated at 2,500 to 3,000; four to six pieces artillery. Know nothing of his movements, but will keep you advised.

HERBERT.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *December 21, 1864.*

Captain HERBERT,
Mudraugh's Hill:

Re-enforcements on the way; protect the trestle to your last squad. If necessary to do so, sally out.

HUGH EWING,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
MILITARY DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY,
Bowling Green, December 21, 1864.

Capt. E. B. HARLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Louisville, Ky.:

CAPTAIN: Four men of the Fifty-second Kentucky Mounted Infantry came in last night from Hartford, Ky., and say they were captured with the small garrison (some forty men) at that place on Tuesday evening and paroled by General Lyon. They state that Lyon's forces left, going in the direction of Litchfield. They heard them say that they expected to form a junction with Forrest at or about Elizabethtown. They thought they must be ignorant of the condition of Hood and his army and was not aware of his defeat. I am of the opinion they are working out an old programme to strike the railroad about Elizabethtown, still expecting Forrest to join him in that neighborhood, not being fully aware of matters as they are.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DANIEL J. DILL,
Captain, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Columbia, December 21, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 11 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. N. J. T. DANA,
Memphis, Tenn.:

Your telegram of the 21st instant is received. As soon as your expedition shall have completed the work assigned you, I shall be much obliged if you will return to Nashville the troops belonging to the Military Division of the Mississippi now serving with you.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
McKinn's Creek, Polaski River, December 24, 1864.—8 a. m.
(Received 6 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.

I am profoundly sensible of every kind expression in your telegram of December 24, informing me that the President had directed my name to be sent to the Senate for confirmation as major general U. S. Army, and I beg to assure the President and yourself that your approbation of my services had more value for me than the commission itself.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

McKinn's Creek, McKinn's River, Polaski,

December 24, 1864.—10 p. m.

(Received 3 a. m., 26th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HAYDEN,

Washington, D. C.

I forward the following dispatch, received from General Wilson, for your information.

HEADQUARTERS 1ST CORPS, MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Paducah, December 24, 1864.—10 a. m.

My advance, Colonel Haffenden commanding, drove the rebels through this place half past 8 on the lower ferry. Fought with Jackson's and Robert's divisions, is scarcely out of sight. Haffenden has gone on the road to Lamb's Ferry, the original intention of going to the river landing house at Paducah for fear they would be intercepted. They are trying to reach Haffenden. I will send them ahead as fast as possible. They are literally running away, making no defense whatever. I will open communication with the columns in the direction of Huntville. The rebels have destroyed a large quantity of ammunition, but the bridge across Highland Creek has been saved, thanks to the gallantry of a Colonel Baird, commanding Fifth Iowa.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Deputy Major-General.

I learn from the chief engineer that he will soon have the road open as far as Columbus; from thence to Paducah will be but a small matter. Colonel Lyon telegraphs me from Huntville, under date of 24th instant, that Colonel Premer, with 200 men, fought and dispersed 600 men of Roddey's command that morning at Indian Creek, killing several and capturing 60 prisoners and 50 horses. He routed the enemy utterly, and pursued them several miles. Our loss, I killed and 3 wounded. Indian Creek heads in Huntville and empties into Hurricane Creek just above its mouth. Have not yet heard from Admiral Lee, but feel convinced that the water in the Tennessee enables him to get above Eastport, and that he is performing good service. I have my troops well in hand and well provided with provisions and ammunition, and close upon the heels of the enemy, and shall continue to press him as long as there is a chance of doing anything.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: Inclosed herewith I have the honor to forward the recommendation of Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield, commanding Army of the Ohio, for the promotion to the rank of brigadier general of volunteers of two of his staff officers,* and to concur with him in such recommendation; also the recommendation of Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood, commanding Fourth Army Corps, for the promotion of two deserving colonels† of his command, in which I heartily unite. Letters recommendatory of Colonel Opdycke were forwarded to Headquarters of the Army early in the present month.

I have the honor to recommend the promotion of the following-named officers to the grades named, and for the reasons given in connection with the name of each:

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood, commanding Fourth Army Corps, to be promoted to the rank of major general of volunteers, for gallant and meritorious conduct and good generalship displayed in command of the Third Division of the Fourth Corps, and during the present campaign as commander of the Fourth Corps, particularly in the battle of Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863, throughout the Atlanta campaign, and at the assault upon the enemy's intrenchments at Lovejoy's Station, Ga., where he received a severe wound. Notwithstanding this wound he retained command of his division and participated in the operations against Hood in his movements upon our communications with Atlanta, and later confronted him in his invasion of Tennessee, took a conspicuous part in the battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864, in which seven desperate assaults of the rebels were repulsed, 5,000 of them killed and wounded, and nearly 1,000 of them, with 5 stand of colors, captured. He has also rendered brilliant and important services during the battle of the 15th and 16th instant before Nashville, and since in the campaign which was then inaugurated and is now in progress.

Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox, U. S. Volunteers, for good conduct displayed in the management of his troops on the 15th and 16th instant. Your attention is respectfully invited to the accompanying papers referring to the capture of artillery on the 16th, forwarded by General Schofield and herewith inclosed.‡

Brig. Gen. J. H. Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, to the rank of full major general of volunteers, for the excellent management of his corps during the present campaign, in which it has peculiarly distinguished itself, attempting such things as are not expected of cavalry, such as assaulting the enemy in intrenched positions, and always with success, capturing his works, with many guns and prisoners. His corps has also been conspicuous for its energy in the pursuit of the retreating rebel army, which has cost the rebel commander many men, several pieces of artillery, and tended much to the demoralization of his army.

Brig. Gen. Edward Hatch, commanding Fifth Division, Cavalry Corps, to be promoted to major general of volunteers; recommended by General Wilson for gallant conduct and good generalship displayed in the command of the division from the time of his first confronting the rebel army under Hood during the invasion of Tennessee, November

* Lieut. Col. George W. Schofield and Lieut. Col. William Hartstaff.

† P. Sidney Post and Emerson Opdycke.

‡ See p. 234.

29, until the present time, and particularly at the battle of Brentwood Hills, December 16, 1864, he demonstrated fully, I quote the language of General Wilson:

In accordance with his orders, General Thomas' Headquarters crossed the country from Williams' house toward the Hills, and at the same time established his connection with the infantry, and, advancing his army, he struck the enemy's line on the flank and rear, completely enveloping it, thus cutting off its retreat. The fortifications constructed upon the Brentwood Hills were quickly destroyed. Hastily forming his Second Brigade dismounted, Col. D. L. Cameron, commanding it, pushed boldly forward and routed the enemy's ranks, capturing in this first assault 1 guns and 45 prisoners, and in the second, a second assault, capturing 2 guns and 100 prisoners.

The same day at night fell into the hands of the enemy, among them Brigadier General Rucker, commanding the brigade of Caldwell's division rebel cavalry, with Caldwell's division of Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. J. H. Hammond, commanding the South Brigade, Cavalry Corps, for confirmation of his appointment as brevet brigadier-general of volunteers; recommended by General Wilson for general good conduct and skillful management of his brigade during the retreat before the rebel army while it was withstanding upon Nashville and during the present campaign, particularly on the 16th and 17th instant, and since during the pursuit of Hood's army, during which he has displayed great activity and energy.

Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding the Department Army of the Tennessee, desires to recommend his division commanders, Brigadier General McArthur and Brig. Gen. K. T. Canby, for promotion to the brevet rank of major-general, also Colonels M. Mallen and Hubbard, commanding brigades, to the rank of lieutenant-general; but being unable to hear from him on the subjects, I cannot give specific reasons for the promotion of these officers, or even give their full names and regiments.

In conclusion I would respectfully urge the confirmation by the Senate of Brig. Gen. W. D. Whipple, my chief of staff, for the energy and zeal displayed by him in the discharge of his duties throughout the entire Atlanta campaign as well as during the present one. For additional reasons for this I would invite your attention to my letter recommending his appointment sent from Fort Sumter, Atlanta in August last.

I would also request the promotion to the rank of major and assistant adjutant-general of volunteers of Capt. Robert H. Hamery, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, a member of my staff, for his intelligence and untiring devotion to duty since he joined me nearly a year ago, particularly during the Atlanta campaign and during the present one.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
McKane's Church, Pulaski Road, December 25, 1864—8 a. m.
ol. THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:

Your telegram of 3.30 p. m. of 24th is received. In reply, I would respectfully state, for the information of the honorable Secretary, that in my opinion, whilst the raising of new volunteer regiments is an essential part of the campaign, the filling up of old regiments in the

held with recruits keeps the army in an efficient condition at all times. With new regiments, both officers and men are generally ignorant of their duties, are more or less difficult to discipline, and, in consequence of a lack of discipline, are much more liable to disease; while recruits added to old regiments are at once under the hand of discipline, soon learn how to take care of themselves, and by mingling with their comrades who have seen service, readily learn their duties, and in a short time become almost as efficient and reliable as the old troops. Permit me, also, to state, whilst on the subject, that receiving volunteers for one-year's service is also injurious to the efficiency of the army; a soldier who volunteers for one year hardly learns his duty before his time expires. In my opinion, the most efficient way of keeping up an army, after it has once been organized by the acceptance of volunteers, is to perpetuate the old regiments by accepting volunteers for three years, or by drafting for five years.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, *December 25, 1864.*

(Received 12.20 p. m.)

Hon. B. M. STANTON:

About 3,000 prisoners of war, including officers, have been forwarded to Northern depots, 1,700 leave to-day, and the remainder, about 700, will leave to-morrow morning, making in all less than 5,500 prisoners. There are about 1,600 wounded prisoners yet to arrive. No captures have been reported from the front since the 21st.

Respectfully,

W. HOFFMAN,
Commissary General of Prisoners.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Richland Creek, December 25, 1864—8.30 p. m.

(Via Paducah. To be forwarded.)

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE:

Our cavalry drove enemy through Paducah at 9 a. m. to-day. Forrest's cavalry on full run. Rebel army is literally running away, and seems to be making for Lamb's Ferry and Florence. He has been thrown off his intended route to Decatur by fear of being intercepted. I think it best for you to remain as long as possible at Eastport, or, at least, until we ascertain definitely what Hood is trying to do.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Richland Creek, December 25, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM E. MERRILL,

Chattanooga:

Prepare a pontoon bridge sufficient to span the Tennessee River at Decatur immediately and send it to Bridgeport, subject to orders of Major-General Steedman. Answer.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHATTANOOGA, December 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Dispatch received. The orders mentioned were given yesterday, and the trains leave here to-morrow morning for Bridgeport.

W. E. MERRILL,

Colonel and Chief Engineer, Department of the Cumberland.

RICHLAND CREEK, December 25, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM E. MERRILL,

Chattanooga:

Yours received. O. K. Notify General Meacham.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 25, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff:

Capt. F. H. Ruger, assistant quartermaster, in charge of advance depot of army, now at Spring Hill, reports great thefts and robberies by troops and others, and says he is without sufficient guards. I have telegraphed him to call on your headquarters for all necessary guards now or hereafter, and respectfully request that his requisitions be honored accordingly. I need scarcely say that it is of the first importance that your advance depot be well regulated and well protected and supplied with ample details for guards to public property at all times.

J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Richland Creek, December 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,

Nashville:

Yours of this day received. A regiment has been ordered from Nashville to Spring Hill, as guard to the advanced depot, and will orders to move with it.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, December 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Railroad repairs progressing well. Bridge over Carter's Creek, N 7, will be O. K. to-morrow, then builders will go to Duck River bridge. Colonel Wright is at Carter's Creek bridge, and has an operator with him, so you can communicate by telegraph. Line O. K. to Louisville via Chattanooga and Knoxville.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. PLUM,

Operator, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 25, 1864.

J. W. WRIGHT,
Carters Creek:

How are you getting along with the rebuilding of the bridges? Can you form any idea when you will get to Columbia? Road from Columbia to Pulaski O. R., except bridge over Richland Creek, which is destroyed. It is of the utmost importance that we get the railroad rough as soon as possible.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 25, 1864—11 a. m.*

aj. THOMAS T. FORREST:

Rebels under Lyon hold Louisville railroad near Elizabethtown, Ky., having destroyed a bridge and captured a train. Of course no telegraph at work that way. Just got one wire through over Chattanooga railroad. General Thomas this morning eight miles south of Columbus; will be at Lynnvile to night; is not crowding the rebels; seems to be pushing easy till Steedman gets his forces into position in rear. Report current that Hood has been superseded by Forrest, whose task it is to get the army out of the scrape into which Hood has caught it.

J. C. VAN DIZER,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you place in the haversacks of your men three days' provisions, and move on to the support of Major-General Wilson. The cavalry train, followed by your train, should move immediately in your rear and keep closed. General Wilson has been ordered to continue pressing the rear of the rebel army.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
*Lamb's Ferry Road, Six Miles South of Pulaski, Tenn.,
 December 25, 1864—8.15 p. m.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I propose to take four batteries with me and leave the rest of my artillery in Pulaski, taking the teams of the guns I leave. This will give me one battery for each division and one reserve battery. I will also take in addition to the five ammunition wagons with each

division, thirty additional ones, ten for a division, and each loaded with ten boxes of ammunition. I am obliged to do this on account of the condition of the road from Pulaski to the river. We will issue three days' rations to morning, with instructions that they must last five days, and will send the empty wagons back to the terminus of the railroad to reload. As soon as the rations are issued the pursuit will be continued as vigorously as possible. At present our information is that the enemy has taken the Lamb's Ferry road, but this we cannot tell certainly until we get to the junction of the Lamb's Ferry and Florence roads. I will promptly advise you of the road which we take. I have a train behind loaded with three days' rations, which I would be glad to have follow me as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, &c.,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 25, 1861—1.30 p. m.

Brevet Major-General WILSON,
Comdy. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

I will move my corps south of Richland Creek three or four miles, as I may find the ground suitable for camping, and halt for the night. I will be out of rations to night, and it will be necessary for me to halt here until our supply train comes up. General Thomas has promised to push it forward as rapidly as possible, but it is uncertain when it will arrive here, though I trust it will arrive some time to night or to morning. I will be glad to know your condition in reference to rations, and your intentions in reference to future movements, as I wish to keep the corps up in supporting distance of the cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HIGHER CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
December 25, 1861.

General WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

GENERAL: We are four miles from Pulaski, on the Lamb's Ferry road, and have met a slight check. If you bring up your infantry we may get some prisoners. I am putting General Hatch's division on the skirmish line now, and I think I shall be able to drive Forrest off our infantry can materially assist me.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

There are eight brigades of infantry in our front, with rail intrenchments. Please hurry up as rapidly as possible.

J. H. W.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Two Miles and a Half South of Lynchville, Tenn.,
December 25, 1864—7 a. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Corps for to-day, December 25, 1864: The corps will march for Pulaski as soon as the cavalry is out of the way—General Beatty will lead; General Kimball will follow; then General Elliott. One battery will accompany each division.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lamb's Ferry Road, Six Miles South of Pulaski,
December 25, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL:

GENERAL: You will select ten ammunition wagons from your train, load each with ten boxes of ammunition and as much forage as they can carry, and direct the same to follow the reserve battery of the corps, in the following order: The First Division train leading; then a Second Division train; then the Third. The ammunition trains will be in Pulaski to-night.

Three days' rations will be issued to-morrow morning and they must stand five days, as we have been ordered to vigorously pursue the enemy, use your rations as promptly as possible, as we must push ahead to support the cavalry.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Elliott and Beatty.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Columbia, December 25, 1864—12 m.

Major-General THOMAS,

Commanding Department of the Cumberland;

GENERAL: The second bridge is nearly completed, and it now seems possible that General Wood's and General Smith's trains may get over to-day. The crossing at the upper bridge is extremely slow, but I hope will be better at the other. As soon as I can get the bridge I will cross and move forward at once, unless otherwise directed.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Commanding Army of the Ohio;

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move with your command to Pulaski, with transportation closed up, following General Smith, which moves with its transpor-

tation closed on it in the same manner. He also wishes you to direct the commander of the brigade at Columbia to take the three guns which were yesterday hauled out of Duck River, at the bridge, across the river to Columbia, and send them by first train to Nashville, consigned to Capt. A. Mendenhall, chief of ordnance, Department of the Cumberland. There are also three others abandoned by the rebels on the road leading from Columbia to Murfreesborough, which he also wishes secured and sent to Nashville at the same time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 25, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Columbia:

How soon can a pontoon bridge be spanned from Duck River for ELB River? The report now is that Hood is making for Lamb's Ferry and Florence.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, { HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 187, { *In the Field, near Columbia, Tenn.,
December 25, 1861.*

VIII. The troops will cross Duck River tomorrow, the 26th, commencing at daylight. General Cox will use the upper bridge and General Couch the lower one. The baggage and ammunition trains will follow their respective divisions; other trains will cross at either bridge as soon as practicable, but will give the preference to trains belonging to troops which are in advance. Each division commander will leave a staff officer at the bridge during the crossing of his artillery and trains, to superintend the crossing. The greatest care must be taken to prevent accidents and unnecessary delays. Rations will be issued to the troops this evening.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 25, 1861.

Maj. Gen. A. J. SMITH,
Commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move on leisurely with your command to Paducah, followed by its train, if it may arrive there in good order and be ready for any movement it may be intended for it after arriving at that place. You will be followed by the Twenty-third Army Corps, with its train. General W

n drove the rebels through Pulaski at 9 o'clock this morning on a full n and is still pressing them, supported by the Fourth Corps. Hood's my is literally running away, and making for Lamb's Ferry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have ur division in readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 26, :8 o'clock, taking with you your train, and in the advance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Columbia, Tenn., December 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. K. GARRARD,
Commanding Second Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you have your command i readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 26, at 9 a. m., aking with you your train, Second Division taking the advance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Col. J. B. Moore, commanding Third Division.)

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Beyond Pulaski, Tenn., December 25, 1864—10, 10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

There seems to be little doubt that the rebels have gone to Bain-ridge, eight miles above Florence, fearing a flank movement from Stevenson. Two corps (Stewart's and Lee's) went by this road—the Florence road—to Lexington; Cheatham's went toward Lawrenceburg, striking the old military road, eight miles below Lawrenceburg. The people say the rebels are suffering immensely. Buford's wound is said to be quite severe. A Mr. Carter says the colonel commanding the pontoon train told him he was going to Bainbridge; left here on Thursday morning. Cheatham's ammunition train of fifteen or twenty wagons was abandoned here. The mules were put in to help the pontoons along. General Lee was severely wounded in the foot in the fight at Nashville. His corps is now commanded by Stevenson. The rebels have lost eighteen generals killed, wounded, and captured since they started north. They acknowledge sixty-eight pieces of artillery lost.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 25, 1861—4.15 p. m.

Major, Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

GENERAL: Your order of 9.15 a. m. today has been received.* The major-general commanding wishes you to continue pressing the rear of the rebel army as you have heretofore done. Your trains and those of the Fourth Corps are well along, yours in advance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General, &c.

HIGHB. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
*Five Miles Southwest of Paducah, on Landis' Ferry Road,
 December 25, 1861—6 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff.

Harrison's brigade came up with the enemy's infantry, strongly posted in rail fence works, and after some sharp skirmishing was driven back, losing one gun. The pursuit was repossessed in ten minutes, but the gun was recovered only by a fifty prisoners were captured from the enemy, and the position taken. The rebels are now on the march again, and prisoners say they are ordered to go ahead until they get across the river. My advance is two miles beyond here. Two locomotives down below Paducah were saved from burning by our Hatch's regiments. The rebel force is eight brigades, of 500 or 600 picked men each. The country is a very barren and poor one. My horses are suffering for forage, and my men are getting short of ration; though I will push on again early in the morning in hopes of getting back the lost gun and some or two horses. Is there any news from Sherman?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Executive Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, { HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
 No. 14, { MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Regimental House, December 25, 1861.

The Cavalry Corps will pursue the enemy to-morrow morning, in the following order:

I. Brigadier-General Hammond will take the advance, move promptly at 5 o'clock; General Hatch will follow; then General Croton; and then Colonel Harrison.

II. Each command will move promptly, and keep well closed on the rear of the one preceding it.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, December 25, 1861.

Brig. Gen. E. LONG:

Lyon is reported as still roaming through Kentucky. As your troops are the nearest to him, the major-general commanding looks to you to destroy him entirely.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *December 25, 1861.*

Brevet Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

I sent Third Ohio and Sixty eighth Illinois to Bardstown this morning. Will leave with remainder of division Wednesday, 28th instant.

E. LONG,
Brigadier General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 25, 1861. (Via Stevenson.)

Maj. Gen. J. B. STEEDMAN,
Decatur:

The report now is that the enemy is making for Lamb's Ferry and Florence, being thrown off his route to Decatur by fear of being intercepted. Give us such information as you may have received concerning this. The moment you establish a footing on south side of Tennessee River order Colonel Merrill to send you a pontoon bridge from Bridgeport, where he has been ordered to have it ready; establish it at Decatur.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 25, 1861.*

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Headquarters Major General Thomas:

The three Missouri regiments arrived here last night, and will be sent down the line of the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad as soon as I can get them off. One of them is a one year regiment, and the two others are six-months troops. I have directed General Milroy to occupy the line of the Chattanooga road with the three new Michigan regiments now at Murfreesborough, leaving small garrison at that place and Tallahoma; and to relieve the Sixth Kentucky at Anderson and forward it here for muster out; also to relieve the One hundred and eightieth Ohio at Elk River, Decherd and below, and direct it to join the Twenty-third Corps via Fayetteville. General Milroy's headquarters to be at Tallahoma as before.

L. H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
In the Field, Richmond Creek, December 25, 1861.

MAJ. GEN. L. H. ROBERTS,
Nashville, Tenn.

Send one of the Missoni baggage trains just arrived at Nashville to Spring Hill, as guard to the railroad depot at that place, with orders to follow the advanced depot, to prevent pillaging and robbery and to assist in loading wagons, &c.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 25, 1861.

MAJ. GEN. R. H. MITCHELL,
Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The major-general commanding directs that with the three Michigan regiments now at Murfreesboro, you relieve the Sixth Kentucky and One hundred and eighth Ohio Infantry, and occupy the line railroad in your command, leaving small garrisons at Murfreesboro and Tullahoma. You may furnish transportation to the One hundred and eightieth Ohio, and direct it to join the Twenty third Corps Fayetteville, as you propose. The Sixth Kentucky, upon being relieved will be furnished with transportation by you by rail, and sent to Nashville to be mustered out. You may make your headquarters at Tullahoma as before. Another regiment will be sent you as soon as possible.

H. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT NASHVILLE,
 AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
 No. 3. *Murfreesboro, Tenn., December 25, 1861.*

The following regiments now at this post will report to Brig. (H. P. Van Cleve for duty till further orders; all communications reports will be made through him, viz: Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, Sixty first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Third Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Fourth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Twentieth Michigan Volunteer Infantry.

By command of Major-General Milroy.

JNO. C. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEXINGTON, December 25, 1861.

LIEUT. COL. T. B. FAIRLEIGH,
Louisville, Ky.

Advise me by telegraph of Lyon's movements. He was reported Elizabethtown last night.

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY COMMANDER,
Louisville, December 25, 1861.

apt. E. B. HARLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Captain Scott, Eighty-third Indiana Volunteers, commanding a detachment of 200 convalescents, en route for New York from Nashville to join General Sherman, was captured by Lyon, at or near John's Bridge, on Friday evening last (December 23), and reported so this morning. The officers and men were paroled by Lyon. Captain Scott arrived at Muldraugh's Hill last evening and proceeded with a command to this place; he reports cannonading heard and our cavalry in sight when he left. The captain understood that General McCook and Colonel La Grange had come up with Lyon. The force of the latter is reported by Scott at 2,500 well mounted and equipped men and four pieces of artillery. Scott thinks the rebels divided their force—one brigade destroying the road from Elizabethtown south, the other from that point north. An officer of the Sixth Kentucky Cavalry, which forms a part of Watkins' brigade, of McCook's division, says some thirty of our wounded reached here last night.

I am, very respectfully,

THOS. B. FAIRLEIGH,
Lieut. Col. Twenty-sixth Kentucky Vols., Military Commander.

COLUMBIA, KY., *December 25, 1861.*

apt. E. B. HARLAN, *Louisville, Ky.:*

Reliable information says that Lyon would move to Greensburg and Columbus and cross Cumberland River at Burkesville or higher. Colonel La Grange, of our cavalry, states that Lyon has 1,300 to 1,500 men and no piece of artillery; this is confirmed by several citizens of Litchfield, General McCook in his pursuit. Two reports of artillery were heard this morning at this farm in a southeasterly direction, probably road to Hodgenville. Our scouts were out since 2 a. m. yesterday, and found he above at Elizabethtown.

CHAS. E. BEHLE,
Major.

COLUMBIA, *December 25, 1861.*

apt. E. B. HARLAN, *Louisville, Ky.:*

Lyon's force left Elizabethtown between 12 and 2 p. m., and took the road to Hodgenville. This information is said to be by our scouts of authenticated source. Lyon probably takes his route via Lebanon.

CHAS. E. BEHLE,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 26, 1861—10 p. m.
 (Received 1 p. m. 27th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I send the following dispatch, of 10.10 a. m. yesterday, from General Wilson, for your information.*

A later dispatch, at 6 p. m. of the instant, states that, in pressing the enemy, Haysden's brigade came upon the enemy's infantry, strongly posted in well-located works, and so close did he push up that, in being compelled to fall back, the loss of one gun was involved. The position was, however, taken for moments afterwards, but the enemy had retaken the gun. The rebel force is eight brigades, of 400 to 600 men each. General Wood, commanding the Tenth Corps, is in close support of General Wilson, and both will continue the pursuit tomorrow. I have heard from General Steele to-day. He disembarked his troops from camp at Limestone Creek, seven miles from Decatur, and was marching that place at 7 a. m. to-day.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, December 20, 1864. (Via Paducah.)

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE:

General Donaldson has been ordered to send the transports now Paducah to Eastport, under convoy. Will you please furnish the gunboats, and order them to remain at Eastport until a cavalry force which I am going to send across to that point arrives there and accomplish the work upon which it is sent.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General

(DECEMBER 20, 1864)

General DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster, Nashville.

Has the railroad to Chattanooga been repaired?—ANSWER.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General, Commanding

NASHVILLE, December 26, 1864

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Commanding Department of the Cumberland.

Telegram received. Superintendent of railroads reported that that last bridge on Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad would be this morning, and some trains, I presume, will pass south at once; road will not be in thorough operation before Wednesday.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, December 26, 1864—6.30 p.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland, Nashville.

The major-general commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of this date, and desires that you notify him when the first train starts south on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad the time of starting.

ROBT. H. RAMSBY,
Assistant Adjutant-General

NASHVILLE, December 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

The superintendent of railroads reports that, from best information he has, trains will run through to Murfreesborough, and so to Chattanooga, on Wednesday night or Thursday morning.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Ohio.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
 Pulaski, December 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
 Nashville:

Please inform us when the Chattanooga road is really open and a train has started south.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 26, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

Naval officer at Paducah reports Admiral Lee gone up the Tennessee with five or six gun boats some days since. Have you any further orders for me about shipment of supplies to go up Tennessee River? General Allen, Louisville, is asking same question.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
 Pulaski, December 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
 Nashville:

Order the transports loaded with provisions and forage now at Paducah up the Tennessee to Eastport, under convoy. Request Admiral Lee to order the gun boats to remain at Eastport, to protect the transports until a cavalry force which is to be sent across to that point shall arrive and accomplish the work for which they are sent. Please acknowledge the receipt of this and report when the transports leave Paducah. Hold the steamers loaded for the same point now at Nashville until further orders.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

CARTER'S CREEK, December 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Carter's Creek bridge, No. 3, is finished all but laying the track. To-morrow morning at daylight we will commence Rutherford's Creek bridge, No. 1, and will finish it to-morrow night. A force of 300 bridge.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Six Miles from Pulaski, December 26, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Owing to the difficulty in getting up our supply train, I have not yet completed the issue of the three days' rations which I mentioned to you last night that I would issue this morning, and consequently have been unable to move. I may yet move one division two miles this evening. The corps will start at 5 a. m. to-morrow, and push forward as vigorously as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 26, 1864. (Received 10.30 a. m. 27th.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Yours of 4 p. m. to-day received. The major-general commanding has no orders for you except to push on and support the cavalry as fast as you can and drive the rebels into the Tennessee River. Send word back from time to time with information as to the state of your supplies, and your wagons will be sent forward as fast as possible.

Respectfully,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Six Miles south of Pulaski, Lamb's Ferry Road,
December 26, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brevet Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I have received a note from General Thomas, in which he directs that I move on to your support, and that your train follow after my troops and my train after yours. Please give the necessary instructions to have your train so move. Owing to the difficulty of getting rations from Pulaski to camp, it may be noon before we can get them issued; immediately afterward I will march. I suggest that you send a regiment to Elk River for the purpose of cutting trees and filling the stream full, in order that they may float down and destroy the enemy's pontoon bridge over the Tennessee River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Sugar Creek, Seventeen Miles from Pulaski,
December 26, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 7 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch is just received. The enemy made a short stand at this place, but have again retreated. I have stopped a short

time to feed my animals. Will you please push forward my supply train as rapidly as possible, as I shall be in need of rations to-morrow. As soon as I cross this stream I will send a brigade to fell trees in the Tennessee River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Breret Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Morris' House, Lamb's Ferry Road, December 26, 1861—8 a. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Corps for to-day, December 26 1861:

The corps will march as soon as rations are issued—General Kimball will lead, followed by General Elliott, then General Beatty. The ordnance wagons that will follow divisions will be the five ammunition wagon and ambulances; all others, including headquarters and baggage wagons, will follow the ammunition of the reserve battery (after the troops). These wagons will move first, corps headquarters; then division headquarters, in the order in which the divisions march. It will be necessary to make this disposition of trains to facilitate our march for the next two or three days.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Six Miles South of Pulaski, December 26, 1861—5 p. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Corps for to-morrow, December 27 1861:

The corps will march to-morrow in the same order, in reference divisions, trains, &c., that it was to have moved to-day. General Kimball will draw out at 5.30 a. m.; General Elliott will draw out at the same hour and follow; and General Beatty will follow General Ellis.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 26, 1861—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General ELLIOTT,
Commanding Second Division:

The general commanding directs that no regimental baggage wagons move with the troops. If any have come this side of Pulaski send them back to that place, where they will remain until further order. In going back do not let them interfere with trains coming this way.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 26, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Lieut-General ELLIOTT,
Commanding Second Division:

We have not moved out of camp to-day this evening. Orders
given for the march to-morrow.
Order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, December 26, 1864.

1. SCHOFIELD:

Just got working to Pulaski. Can now reach General Thomas'
orders.

J. T. JOYCE,
Operator.

COLUMBIA, December 26, 1864.

1. WHIPPLE:

Am dispatch asking when a pontoon bridge can be spanned from
River is received. I will try to get my troops and ammunition
across to-day. If I succeed one bridge might be spanned to-night.
This time the bridges have been entirely occupied by trains in
go of me. I will inform you during the day what progress is

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., December 26, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieut-General THOMAS:

Impossible to tell when my trains will be able to cross the river,
with the two bridges. They have not yet commenced, and General
still has 200 wagons to cross. The bridges are out of order the
or part of the time. I would advise the construction of trestle
over any stream between here and the Tennessee River, rather
to rely upon the pontoons, even if the latter were not in use here.
I think it would be advisable to build a trestle bridge here. I can
a good double-track bridge in two or three days, if my engineer
be taken off from the railroad. I think it will take at least
days yet to get the cars to Columbia; meantime the pontoons
as will hardly accommodate the trains going to and from Spring
Please direct whether I shall set my engineers to building a
where.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 26, 1861—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,

Columbia.

Your telegram of 12 m. today is received. You can set your engineers to work building the trestle bridge across Duck River. According to present indications I do not think your troops will be needed about Florence, as per last reports from Wilson and Wood the enemy is doing his best to get out of the way. General Wilson thinks he will try to cross at Bainbridge and Lamb's Ferry. Steedman crossed the Tennessee today seven miles above Decatur, and is marching on that place. If Wilson finds the enemy retreating in disorder I shall order him to endeavor to throw a portion of his force across the Tennessee at Eastport and destroy Bear Creek bridge, then put General Smith at Eastport, to form a depot for our operations in the spring, and with the rest of the force cross at Decatur, and, if we can, recover Hood away from the Tennessee, and then recruit his organization for an early spring campaign. What do you think of it? Concentrate and reorganize your command either at or near Columbia as soon as possible. It was reported to me at Columbia that the enemy had abandoned three or four guns on the Columbia and Murfreesborough road, north of Duck River and about eight miles from Columbia. Try and find out where they are and have them brought in.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

*Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.**COLUMBIA, TENN., December 26, 1861—7, 30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Pulaski, Tenn.

Your dispatch of 6 p. m. is just received. The plan you propose seems the best that can be done under the circumstances, if Hood succeeds in getting across the Tennessee. I will reorganize my command as soon as possible. I have not yet heard of the troops from Murfreesborough, and suspect that a portion of them at least went with General Steedman. I have sent a party to find the guns on the Murfreesborough road. I have succeeded in getting our division and most of its train across the river, and can probably get the other over tomorrow, and will gladly push forward, if you think I can be of any use; if not, will be better to leave them on the north bank, to save crossing supplies, until the bridge is done.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,

Columbia, Tenn., December 26, 1861.

Col. J. S. CARMENT,

Commanding Second Brigade, Third Division, 23d Army Corps:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that you take the three guns which were yesterday hauled out of Duck River, at the bridge across the river to Columbia, and send them by first train to Nashville consigned to Captain Mordecai, chief of ordnance, Department of

Cumberland. There are also three other guns abandoned by the enemy on the road leading from Columbia to Nashville, which he also wishes you to secure and send to Nashville at the same time.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Lynnville, Tenn., December 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. K. GARRARD,
Commanding Second Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 27, at 10 a. m., taking with you your train, Second Division taking the advance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. HUGHES,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brig. Gen. J. McArthur, commanding First Division.)

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Lynnville, Tenn., December 26, 1864.

Col. J. B. MOORE,
Commanding Third Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 27, at 9 a. m., taking the advance, and taking with you your train.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. HUGHES,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Dubin's Horse, Eighteen Miles from Paducah,
December 26, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The enemy, after another brief stand, have again retreated. I have no doubt Hood's whole army is crossing at Bainbridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. WILSON,
Brig. Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, December 26, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

Can you not possibly send a force to Eastport, cross it at that place, and destroy the railroad bridge at Bear Creek? If successful, that would cut off the rebel retreat by Corinth and the Mobile and Ohio

Railroad, and would enable us to change our base to Decatur and operate on Hood's flank, and then as he retreated into Alabama, I will send transports with provisions and baggage, under convoy, to Eastport. Bear Creek bridge is from five to eight miles from Eastport, on the south side of the Tennessee. I think General Hatch can do this, and, if successful, it will be a most important service. Answer immediately.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

The following copy of telegram is respectfully furnished for your information:

MISSISSIPPI RIVER, December 26, 1864.

Major BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Lyon was ten miles from Hodgenville on the Cincinnati road, at daylight yesterday morning. Toward Parisburg, reported to have been and one piece of artillery. We made a forced march from Ashby along to Libertytown in forty-eight hours. Arrived in time to save the bridge and drive off a battalion sent to burn the trestlework. Brigade will move today. Hopes faded and wound closed.

G. H. LA GRANGE,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade, First Division.

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HIGH, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Reynolds' Horse, December 26, 1864—6 a. m.

Capt. E. B. CARLING,
Chief Quartermaster, Cavalry Corps:

CAPTAIN: The general commanding desires you to push forward your trains as rapidly as possible. The command must have rations to-morrow night. If necessary, call on General Thomas for an infantry guard. We are ordered to pursue the enemy, and must have something to eat.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Richland Creek, December 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. M. McCook,
Nashville:

Lyon, it seems, is not destroyed or driven out of the country. We hear of him on Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The major-general commanding directs that you keep at work at him until he is finished or driven across the Cumberland.

BOWLING GREEN, *December 26, 1861.*

(Received 28th.)

Brigadier-General McCook:

Colonel La Grange last heard from at Elizabethtown. Whipped Lyon near there on Saturday evening. Said he would have Lyon and his force.

DANIEL J. DILL,

Colonel Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Richland Creek, December 26, 1861.

Brig. Gen. ELI LONG,

En route between Nashville and Louisville.

The major-general commanding directs that you leave the rebel Lyon to General McCook, and join the Cavalry Corps, at the front, as rapidly as possible to arrive in good order.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CAVALRY DIVISION,

Sugar Creek, December 26, 1861.

Major BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps.

MAJOR: My rations are up to night, and I am low in ammunition. Am doing all I can to night to get my trains up. I can advance, however, without rations at any time. The regiment sent to Lawrenceburg arrived this evening; say no troops but stragglers have gone through Lawrenceburg, and no trains moved in that direction.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,

Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Richland Creek, December 26, 1861.

Maj. Gen. L. H. ROUSSEAU,

Nashville.

The Twenty-eighth Michigan has been assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps, and the Third and Fourth Michigan to the Fourth Army Corps. They cannot, therefore, be used to garrison the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*NASHVILLE, *December 26, 1861.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

I did not know the Third and Fourth Michigan had been assigned, or I should not have ordered General Milroy to use them. I have sent him instructions not to post them on the road. This will leave but two regiments to garrison the road from here to Stevenson, the Twenty-

ninth Michigan and One hundred and fifteenth Ohio, 200 men of the latter being prisoners. In addition to Miller's brigade, the One hundred and seventy third Ohio, Fourth Division, Twentieth Corps, is here doing post duty, but General Milha says he cannot spare it, and that he has your letter assuring him the garrison shall not be diminished. With that regiment and the Forty third Wisconsin, now at Clarksville by order of the major-general commanding, I could garrison the Chattanooga road. I have heard from General Watkins, at Haden'sville, and suppose General McCook will be able to attend to Lyon in Kentucky.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 26, 1864.

MAJ. GEN. L. H. ROUSSEAU,

Nashville, Tenn.

The Forty fifth, Forty eighth, and Forty ninth Missouri Regiments are ordered to report to you. They had better be sent down this road, one to go to Spring Hill and keep the advanced depot. The Forty third Wisconsin, at Clarksville, is available; also a regiment at Fort Donelson, which was stopped there on its way up the Cumberland—I do not remember the number; this is now available to you. Send the Forty eighth and Forty ninth Missouri to this place. The One hundred and eighty-second Ohio can be used to guard the Nashville and Chattanooga road. There are also the Forty fourth and Forty fifth Wisconsin, now at Nashville for the purpose of being organized; when organized, they will be available for railroad duty.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 26, 1864.*

BRIG. GEN. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Richland Creek.

I have ordered the Forty fifth Missouri to Spring Hill, as directed. The following telegram, dated yesterday, received from Colonel Lyon, at Huntaville:

Colonel Prosser, with 200 men of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry and 120 of the Thirteenth Indiana Cavalry, fought and dispersed that of Roddey's command, this a. m., at Indian Creek, killing several and capturing 60 prisoners and 50 horses. He routed the enemy utterly, and pursued him several miles. Our loss, 1 killed and 3 wounded.

L. H. ROUSSEAU,

Major-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 26, 1864.*

BRIG. GEN. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Richland Creek.

Please inform me where General Wilson, commanding cavalry, is.

L. H. ROUSSEAU,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 26, 1864.

aj. Gen. L. H. ROUSSEAU,
Nashville:

General Wilson is still pressing the enemy, and to-night is eight or
n miles from here, on the Lamb's Ferry road.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, 1
No. 297.

HQ. DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 26, 1864.

* * * * *

II. The Forty-fifth Missouri Volunteer Infantry will proceed without
delay to Spring Hill, by rail, to serve as guard to the railroad depot
and stores at that place, to prevent pillaging and robbing, and to assist
in loading wagons with supplies and materials for the troops at the
out. The regiment will follow the advance depot as the railroad is
spaired and other depots are established further south, performing the
duties above indicated. The quartermaster's department will furnish
as necessary transportation.

* * * * *

By command of Major-General Rousseau:

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 26, 1864.

Major-General MILROY,
Murfreesborough:

General Thomas telegraphed that the Third and Fourth Michigan
have been assigned to the Fourth Corps, and cannot be used in gar-
risoning the Nashville and Chattanooga road. As soon as it can be
done, other regiments will be sent you.

By command of Major-General Rousseau:

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 26, 1864.

Major-General MILROY,
Murfreesborough:

A dispatch was sent you to-day, directing that the Third and Fourth
Michigan be not used in garrisoning the railroad, as they had been
assigned to the Fourth Corps. Was it received? General Thomas is
beyond Pulaski. Hood has perhaps put his army across the Tennessee.

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HIGH, DEFENSES NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA R. R.,
Murfreesborough, December 26, 1861.

Col. WILLARD WARREN,

(with three Volunteers Infantry.)

COLONEL: You will take with you the mounted men of the two companies of the Fifth Tennessee Cavalry under Captain Couch, and have them march one day in advance of you, so that they can give you all necessary information. If before starting at Fayetteville you learn that our troops have not reached Pulaski, you will march to Columbia instead of Pulaski, as ordered in paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 4 and you will also retain the cavalry with you till you have arrived within safe distance of our troops; but if you find that our troops are at Pulaski, you will send the cavalry back from Fayetteville to Decherd and will proceed with your command, as directed in paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 4. If you cannot learn the whereabouts of our troops after reaching Fayetteville, you will march to Columbia, as it would be too dangerous for you to march to Pulaski with one regiment, if any part of the enemy is occupying that place.

By command of Major-General Milroy.

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOTE: If you learn at Fayetteville that the enemy has passed Pulaski, you will march to that point.

By command of Major-General Milroy.

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

This letter was never transmitted.

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HIGH, DEFENSES NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA R. R.,

Murfreesborough, December 26, 1861.

Col. EDWARD ANDERSON,

Commanding Second Brigade.

COLONEL: Order one company of the Twelfth Indiana (Cavalry) start at 6 a. m. to-morrow and march on the Shelbyville pike till it come to the camp of the wagon train which left here this p. m. It will take so much of that train as was designed for the One hundred and eightieth Ohio, and proceed with it to Decherd and deliver it Colonel Warner. This company will then relieve the detachment of One hundred and fifteenth Ohio, garrisoned at Black house No. 10 (8 south of Tullahoma), placing an officer and twenty men there. The remainder of the company will take quarters at Tullahoma, and await the arrival of the regiment.

By command of Major-General Milroy.

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
 AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
 No. 4. } *Murfreesborough, Tenn., December 26, 1861.*

I. The Twenty-ninth Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry proceed to Anderson by rail, without delay, and relieve the Sixth R

at Kentucky Volunteer Infantry there, and at all other points garrisoned by said regiment. Twenty men and an officer (or an efficient commissioned officer) will be placed in each block-house held by Sixth Kentucky. At Bass Station an officer and thirty men will be garrisoned. The remainder of the regiment will be garrisoned aterson, at which place the colonel will establish his headquarters.

I. The Sixth Regiment Kentucky Volunteer Infantry will, as soon relieved by the Twenty-ninth Regiment Michigan Infantry, proceed railroad to Nashville and report to Captain Wilson, commissary of stores, for the purpose of being mustered out of the service. The arms and garrison equipage will be taken with the regiment and disposed of as the major-general commanding District of Tennessee may order.

* * * * *

by command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General,

HUNTSVILLE, December 26, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Steedman disembarked his troops at Limestone Creek early this evening, seven miles from Decatur on railroad, and moved on that river. Trestle-work at Lime Creek is burned partly. As far as known, is O. K. within four miles of Decatur. Will follow advance closely. Will let you know General Steedman's whereabouts this evening. We had three operators at once. General Granger is on river.

GREGG,

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 27, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General H. W. HALLACK,

Washington, D. C.:

The following dispatch, just received, is forwarded for your information:

HIGH, CAVALRY CORPS, MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Twenty Miles Southwest of Pulaski, December 27, 1864—6 a. m.

The enemy made a stand here yesterday, stopping us for a few minutes. My vanguard pursued him five or six miles beyond here, but the country being entirely isolated I have been compelled to halt here, the body of the command in Sugar Creek delay, till rations can reach us—say till noon. Our horses are very much fatigued, and very heavy, and no forage to be had. I have sent a detachment to Lamb's army, with directions to ascertain the whereabouts of Steedman. The entire rebel army, with the exception of their rear guard, has already crossed the river at Dubridge. The rear guard does not report to get away. I will send forward at once all the force for whom I can get rations and strong horses, with instructions to reach Dubridge as soon as possible. I must get out of this region in three or four days, or we shall leave our horses.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

I have ordered General Wilson to push the enemy as far as possible, at least across the Tennessee, and then endeavor to cross himself at that point under cover of the gun-boats, which should be there at this

time, and destroy the railroad bridge across Bear Creek. Major-General Smith has been ordered to Eastport, to cooperate with and support General Wilson. The command will leave here to-morrow. The roads are in a hostile condition, and the country exhausted of supplies; but I believe we can stand as much hardship as the rebels, and I therefore hope the expedition against Bear Creek bridge will prove successful. General Steedman's operator reported, at 5 p. m. 26th instant, that he was crossing his troops on transports above Decatur, preparatory to marching on that place.

Have you received Major-General Steedman's telegraphic report of the result of his operations in East Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia, forwarded from Knoxville this date? As the copy I received was addressed to yourself and me, I shall not forward the report, unless you have not received it. The complete success and able management of the expedition reflect great credit upon General Steedman and upon his entire command, for which I sincerely hope he and his command may receive the thanks of the Department. I have received a report from my ordnance officer to-day, who states that fifty-three pieces of artillery, with carriages complete, and 1,041 small arms were collected from the battle fields of the 15th and 16th instant. Two pieces of artillery have since arrived at Nashville from Franklin. Three guns were captured from the enemy, three miles north of Thompson's Station, on the 17th. On the 23d instant two pieces of artillery were reported by General Wilson as captured by Hatch's division of cavalry on the Lewisburg pike. On the same date General Wood reported three pieces abandoned on the Columbia and Martinsborough road. On the 24th three pieces were taken out of Duck River, and on the 25th two more pieces were taken from Richland Creek, at this place. There is no doubt a number of other pieces, abandoned, buried, and thrown into the streams, which have not yet been discovered. A large amount of ammunition was destroyed at this place, and ammunition wagons or caissons are found, partially and some completely destroyed, lying along roads, as the troops advance. A large number of small arms were destroyed by fire in the railroad depot at this place, and many more abandoned on the flat on the south side of Richland Creek.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 27, 1864.

(Received 6.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

The railroad is expected to be repaired by Thursday, when the remaining prisoners will be forwarded to Camp Chase.

Respectfully,

WM. HOFFMAN,

Commissary-General of Prisoners.

FLAGSHIP FAIRY,

Chickasaw, December 27, 1864.

Hon. G. WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy.

I have destroyed a new fort at this point and all the enemy's means of crossing the Tennessee below Florence, and to-day blew

two caissons and destroyed two field pieces there, knocking one into the river and the other into pieces. Several transports with supplies for General Thomas arrived here to-day. I find from the general's dispatches that my movements have been in good time to meet his movements. Hood's army is reported broken up, and its parts cannot cross at or below Florence, unless the river falls seriously; it is now falling, which made it impracticable to-day to reach the crossing which the enemy is said to be using above Little Mussel Shoals, six miles above Florence.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding.

(Copy to Lieutenant-General Grant.)

FLAG-SHIP FAIRY,

Tennessee River, Off Chickasaw, Ala., December 27, 1864.

(Via Paducah.)

Major-General THOMAS:

I arrived here on the 24th, and destroyed a new fort and magazine; no guns. Have been several miles above Florence, and have destroyed all the enemy's visible means of crossing below Florence. I found the enemy have field pieces, probably protecting a crossing at foot of Mussel Shoals, six miles above Florence, which want of water prevented my reaching. The rebels crossed their prisoners at Garner's Ferry, twelve miles below Florence, on the 19th instant. I destroyed over a dozen flats and pontoons there; nothing but one flat at Florence. I learned that Hood took some pontoons with him, and others got adrift. Hood has earth works at Florence, made last spring; saw two on each side. No guns of any size of which I could find. Hood's troops arriving near Florence are said to declare that they don't know where his main army is; that they had orders to scatter and care for themselves; that no Tennessee troops have come to this river since Hood's defeat; that 100 wagons and a great many troops were grievously disappointed at my destruction of the ferry-boats at Garner's Ferry, which obliged them to move thence up river. To-day I destroyed two guns and caissons at Florence Landing, and found a battery of several field pieces on heights over left bank at Boone's Ferry. Neither of these places was occupied yesterday. Enemy is doubtless coming in, seeking crossing. Your two telegrams of the 21st were received to-night. Your transports with provisions arrived here to-day, and will remove to Eastport to-morrow, where they will be well protected. I will immediately dispatch an iron-clad and gun-boat to convey your troops up from Paducah. If any are there, or expected, shall keep up active patrol of river above and below.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Paducah, December 27, 1864.

Capt. A. MORDECAI,

Nashville:

Put on board steamer, for General Smith's troops, at Eastport, the following ammunition: 2,000 rounds spherical case, light 12-pounder;

1,000 rounds time shell, light 12 pounder; 3,000 rounds percussion-shell, Schenck 3-inch rifle; 1,000 rounds time-shell, Hotchkiss 3-inch rifle; 500,000 rounds cartridges, elongated ball, caliber .58. General Don-aldson has received orders to take it on board.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General,

NASHVILLE, December 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Telegram received. Ammunition will be shipped to night.
A. MORDECAI,
Captain and Chief of Ordnance,

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

Captain MORDECAI,
Nashville:

Report immediately the number of pieces of artillery that has been captured from the enemy during the recent engagements and up to the present time; also the number of small arms collected on the field.

GEOR. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding,

NASHVILLE, December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

Fifty-three pieces of artillery, with carriages complete, have been collected, as having been captured on the 15th and 16th instant; twelve more have arrived from Franklin. Three thousand and thirty-four small arms have been shipped up from the battle field of the 15th and 16th instant. A full report is forwarded to-day.

A. MORDECAI,
Captain and Chief of Ordnance, Department of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

Capt. A. MORDECAI,
Nashville:

Yours of to-day received. More guns, probably six, will be shipped from Columbia as soon as road is open, and we got two out of the cre- at this place yesterday. The rebels destroyed much ammunition about 1,000 muskets here.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Send the steamers now at Nashville loaded for Eastport to that place. Take on board a quantity of ammunition, for which I have telegraphed Captain Mordecai, also 1,000 pairs of boots and 4,000 pairs of shoes. Answer.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHITTLE,
Chief of Staff:

Will have steamers off for Eastport with supplies indicated as soon as ordnance officer has his stores ready, either to night or early in the morning. Have telegraphed Paducah about boats there. Will telegraph you about train to Chattanooga at earliest hour.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Yours received. Telegraph us when train actually starts for Chattanooga.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Send sufficient steamers to Clifton to transport thence up the river to Eastport 5,000 men, with provisions enough for two trips and all the forage there is room for for the cavalry horses.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, December 27, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

I desire, with your permission, to transfer one division of the construction corps in your department to Savannah, Ga., and have W. W. Wright go there temporarily. During his absence I propose that E. L. Wentz, general superintendent, shall act as chief engineer Division of the Mississippi. The case is urgent; experienced and well trained men are needed, and I know of no other way by which the emergency can be met.

D. C. McCALLUM,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

Col. W. W. WIDGHAM,

Chief Engineer, U. S. Military Railroads, Porter's Creek.

General McCallum wishes you to go with one division construction corps to Savannah, and nominate Major Wentz to take your place while you are absent. Major Wentz says he can perform those duties, in addition to his own, during your absence. Can one division construction corps be spared at this time without injury to the service? General McCallum says the case is urgent.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

E. L. WENTZ,

General Superintendent, Nashville.

General McCallum wishes to transfer Col. W. W. Wright and one division of the construction corps to Georgia temporarily, and proposes you to take Colonel Wright's place during his absence. Can you perform the duties of chief engineer, in addition to your present duties, during his absence? Answer immediately.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

If the duties of chief engineer are assigned me, as intimated in your dispatch, I will perform them.

E. L. WENTZ,
General Supt. of Military Railroads, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, Tenn., December 27, 1864.

Corps commanders and the commanding officers of all detachments of troops in the field will collect together the battle flags, swords, &c., captured by their various commands at the battle of Franklin, and since entering upon this campaign, and forward them to these headquarters, with a full and complete list of the same, giving a description of the captured article, the name of the captor, his company, and regiment, the date and place of capture, and, whenever possible, the incidents connected therewith. In cases where the name of the captor is not definitely known, and the trophy be held either by the regiment or company making the capture as an organization, it is advisable for such company or regiment to elect, from among the most brave and deserving in the command, one who shall be deemed worthy of the honor to be conferred on him. Wherever the name of the captor is known, even though he may not have survived the conflict, this fact should also be stated, and, as in all other cases, be inscribed upon the trophy. It is the design of the major-general commanding, at the termination of the present campaign against the enemy, and the completed collection of

the captured articles herein mentioned, to forward the same, in charge of a capable officer, and accompanied by the parties making the capture, to the Department at Washington, recommending that each may receive medal of honor, or some other fitting acknowledgment of their gallant services. In order that this design may be fully carried out, it is hoped that all commanding officers will cause such prompt and proper efforts to be made as will insure to his command its due proportion of honor. By command of Major-General Thomas:

ROBT. H. RAMSLEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Sugar Creek, Tenn., Pinhook, Twenty Miles from Pulaski,
December 27, 1861—12:30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We have marched fourteen miles to-day and have come up with the cavalry. I have conferred freely with General Wilson—I am writing from his headquarters—and he seems to be of the opinion that the bulk of the rebel army has crossed the Tennessee River; but with a view to determining this certainly he has to-day sent out parties on various roads, from whom he will probably receive reports to-night. He informs me that should the reports of these parties indicate that the enemy has not crossed the Tennessee River he will continue the pursuit, in which case I will follow him up for the purpose of supporting him. On the other hand, should the reports indicate that the enemy has crossed the Tennessee River, he will remain here or in this neighborhood to await further orders from the commanding general; in this case, of course, I will not move from this position until I receive further instructions. The road between this and Pulaski is intolerably bad, and I respectfully suggest that if we move farther south that the commanding general make arrangements to feed us from some other point than Pulaski. If the object in moving farther south is to pursue the enemy (and it appears that he is across the river), that object would seem to have been already fully accomplished. If, however, the commanding general has ulterior objects in view, and desires to place us on the Tennessee River to accomplish them, I would then respectfully suggest that he then indicate some definite point on the Tennessee River for which we may direct our march. I repeat that these suggestions are based upon the hypothesis that the information General Wilson receives this evening should indicate that the enemy has crossed the Tennessee River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington Road, Sugar Creek, Tenn., December 27, 1861—7 p. m.
Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our forage was exhausted yesterday. We commenced operations at Nashville provided with ten days', by order, since which time we have not been able to draw any forage from the quartermaster's

department. This is the eleventh day since we left Nashville. On account of the limited transportation allowed me, we had but six pounds per day - all that we could draw. To-morrow morning we will be entirely out of forage. We are in a very poor country indeed - sterile soil and limited cultivation, and which produces but a very little forage. After this has been stripped by the cavalry, which precedes us, I do not believe we will be able to get a pound for our animals, certainly not enough. If any can be gotten for the batteries, and if the movement is to be continued to the Tennessee River on this route, in my judgment it will have to be done without artillery and ambulances. Even if we are able to get there, there is no probability that we can get forage upon our arrival unless it is sent up the Tennessee River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Sugar Creek, December 27, 1861—8, 30 p. m.

Brigadier General WHITNEY, Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The information received from General Wilson, from his reconnaissance to-day, induces the opinion that the whole of the rebel army is not yet across the Tennessee River. He writes me that he will push on at 5 a. m. in the morning, taking the road to Bainbridge. I will follow him as closely as possible for the purpose of supporting him and making pursuit as vigorously as the condition of the road will allow. I beg again to call attention of the commanding general to our condition and the necessity of pushing forward subsistence and forage as rapidly as possible. I also request full instructions for the guidance of our movements when we reach the Tennessee River, should we go so far.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Bull's Mills, December 27 (1861), 1861—1, 30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood, Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that information has been received that the last of the enemy's forces crossed the Tennessee River last evening, and that the bridge was taken up this morning. General Wilson has sent a staff officer to General Thomas with this information and for orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Pinehook Town, December 27, 1861—6 p. m.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood, Commanding Fourth Corps:

I have just received a dispatch from Colonel Spalding, at Lexington, 2 p. m. He says the rebel rear guard left there 10 a. m. A lad from Florence informed him that on the evening of the 25th the rebel

had not finished their bridge at Bainbridge. They were fortified to cover the crossing. The gun-boats were shelling Florence this morning. Spalding pushed on at once. I have written to General Thomas that I would press on with all my force early in the morning. The woman's testimony is in some degree corroborated by a rebel prisoner just in. At all events we had better push on as far and as fast as possible. I shall move everything, beginning at 5 a. m., though Hatch has received no rations, and three days of Croston's were taken by A. J. Smith. The news from Sherman is magnificent. I will send, under a flag of truce, an official copy for the information of General John B. Hood, as our news differs somewhat from that given to his army during his retreat from Nashville.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brerret Major-General.

UNOFFICIAL.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Columbia, December 27, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,

Commanding U. S. Armies, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: My corps was sent back to Tennessee by General Sherman instead of remaining with him on his march through Georgia, according to his original design, for two reasons, viz: First, because General Thomas was not regarded strong enough after it became evident that Hood designed to invade Tennessee, and, second, in order that I might fill up my corps from the new troops then arriving in Tennessee. These reasons now no longer exist. By uniting my troops to Stanley's we were able to hold Hood in check at Columbia and Franklin until General Thomas could concentrate at Nashville and also to give Hood his deathblow at Franklin. Subsequent operations have shown how little fight was then left in his army, and have taken that little out of it. He now has not more than 15,000 infantry, about 10,000 of whom only are armed, and they greatly demoralized. With time to reorganize and recruit he could not probably raise his force to more than half the strength he had at Franklin. General Thomas has assigned several new regiments to my command, and I hope soon to make them effective, by distributing them in old brigades. I will have from 15,000 to 18,000 effective men, two thirds of whom are the veterans of the campaign in East Tennessee and Georgia. A small force, it is true, yet one which would at least be an appreciable addition to your army in Virginia or elsewhere, where decisive work is to be done. It may not be practicable now for me to join General Sherman, but it would not be difficult to transfer my command to Virginia. I am aware that General Thomas contemplates a "spring campaign" into Alabama or Mississippi, with the Tennessee River as a base, and believe he considers my command a necessary part of the operating force. Without reference to the latter point permit me to express the opinion that such a campaign would not be an economical or advantageous use of so many troops. If aggressive operations are to be continued in the Gulf States, it appears to me it would be much better to take Mobile, and operate from that point, thus striking vital points (if there are any such) of rebel territory by much shorter lines. But it appears to me that Lee's army is virtually all that is left of the rebellion. If we can concentrate force enough to destroy that we will destroy with it the rebel Government,

COLUMBIA, TENN., *December 27, 1864—5.30 p. m.*

General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

My supply train has started for Pulaski.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1864.

Major-General J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Columbia:

Officers and men from all the corps are to be sent to Washington with captured flags. You will get your order to-night, but the major-general commanding wishes you to keep your men until all are ready. I send them all together.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Columbia, Tenn., December 27, 1864.

Major-General L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward to the War Department nine out of colors captured from the enemy by the Twenty-third Army Corps at the battle of Franklin, on the 30th of November, 1864. They are borne by the gallant soldiers who are recognized among their comrades as the actual captors of the flags and as the representatives of a noble regiment to which they belong. The following are the names of the soldiers to whom this special honor is awarded: Capt. John H. Brown,* Company D, Twelfth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry; Capt. George V. Kelley,* Company A, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry; Corp. Joseph Davis,* Company C, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry; Corp. Newton H. Hall,* Company Private John H. Rickacker,* Company D, Private Abraham Green,* Company G, Private John C. Gaunt,* Company G, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. These flags, with eleven others, were captured by Brig. Gen. J. W. Reilly's brigade (First Brigade, Third Division) along its parapet. They afford, at the same time, evidence of the strength of the enemy's column of attack and of its disastrous repulse.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Columbia, Tenn., December 27, 1864.

Major-General D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that instructions just received from Major-General Thomas render it unnecessary for you to move any of your command across Duck River.

He therefore desires you to put your troops into camp on that side, and make them as comfortable as possible, keeping your trains with you, until further orders.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

W. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT A. J. A. OF THE TENNESSEE,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,
Commanding First Division.

GENERAL: By order of the major general commanding, I am directed to say we will not move to-night. You will forward, by 12 m., a list of all material, called for since before, and a report of the late battle in which your command was engaged.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HUGHES,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HIGHER CAVALRY CORPS, W. VA. OF THE MISS.,
Pulaski, Tenn., Southwest of Pulaski, Tenn.,
December 27, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHITTLE,
Chief of Staff.

The communication of the major general commanding, in regard to the destruction of the Bear Creek bridge, has just been received. I reply, after consulting with General Croxton, who assisted in burning it in April, 1862, I am not confident the operation could be made successful in time to injure the enemy. It is nearly sixty miles from here to Eastport, the roads almost impassable. The country denuded of forage and my command without rations. General Wood informs me that my train is scattered all the way between here and Pulaski, stuck in the mud, none of it nearer than eight miles. I am now sending details of mounted men to it to get rations for the current use of the men. I hope to get all up by night, but when here they will barely carry us to Eastport. General Croxton thinks it would be very difficult to forage the horses on the trip, says the Bear Creek bridge is ten miles from the river and, as you know, the railroad is in running order only eighteen miles the side of there. Even if broken, the damage would scarcely be commensurate with the labor necessary to accomplish it. I am willing, however, to undertake it by sending one brigade, or taking the whole effective force, say 5,000 men, if, upon reflection, you think it advisable. Could not an infantry force sent with the gun boats and supplies accomplish it more certainly and at far less cost than my command? The rebel cavalry trains have been sent to Corinth, and the general belief among the prisoners is that Hood expects to assemble and reorganize his army at that place, but is it not more likely, after the loss of so much material, he will go to Blue Mountain or Columbus? The major general commanding must determine very soon which way I should march, for cannot keep my command alive in this region. I have sent all available force after the enemy, a detachment to Rogeraville, and

soon as I hear from them or get rations will move on towards Bainbridge unless otherwise ordered. Whatever may be the ultimate course I shall not be losing time. My impression is that all of the organized rebel force will have crossed by to night, as it is only twenty-eight miles from here to Bainbridge, and the rear guard left here 3 p. m. yesterday, the infantry at noon. I have heard nothing from the pursuit this morning. At all events, they will scarcely make a stand long enough for Wood's infantry to come to my support, for, in the present condition of the roads, it could not reach Bainbridge in less than two days from to-morrow morning. I shall remain here in person until I hear from you, and in the meantime allow no opportunity for inflicting injury upon the enemy to escape.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Pinkhook, December 27, 1864—1 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: Rations for a portion of my command have arrived, but there are none for Hatch's division as yet, and, in the condition of the roads, I fear it will be some time before they reach this place. I have had no news from Colonel Spaulding, who went in command of the reconnaissance toward Bainbridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Pinkhook Town, December 27, 1864—6 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

I have just received a dispatch from Colonel Spaulding, at Lexington, 2 p. m., to the following effect:

The rebel rear guard, Brigadier General Jackson commanding, left here at 10 a. m. A lady from Florence reports that on the 24th instant the rebels were trying to pontoon the river at Bainbridge; that they are fortified to protect the crossing; bridge was not completed Sunday evening. Gun boats were shelling Florence this morning. A rebel prisoner who left Lexington yesterday evening says a courier reported that the bridge was not done yesterday morning.

Colonel Spaulding pushed on at once from Lexington. I will follow him in the morning with the entire force, though Hatch's rations have not arrived and Croxton reports three days of his taken by the troops of Smith's command at Rutherford's Creek. It is worse than useless to try to haul any farther than this point. We can live on parched corn long enough to see what can be done at Bainbridge. The news from Sherman is glorious. As General Hood has published different to his command, I will send him an official copy more recent, as well as more reliable, than his.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

December 27, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The major general commanding directs me to forward the above copy of a dispatch* sent last night, inasmuch as he has received no answer thereto as yet. He also directs me to say that he is extremely desirous to have you destroy Bear Creek bridge, if possible. Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith is in Paducah today, and will start with his command early to-morrow morning for the Tennessee River and Eastport, which latter it is hoped he will be able to reach before the enemy.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 27, 1864.

Major-General WILSON,

Cavalry Corps:

General Long will draw horses and equipments for the One hundred and twenty third Illinois and a portion but not of Seventeenth Indiana to day; will start for Nashville, via Bardstow, to-morrow, the 28th. Two regiments, Third Ohio Cavalry and Ninety eighth Illinois, were sent to Bardstow Sunday, 25th, to intercept General Lyon.

WM. P. CHAMBERLAIN,

Major and Special Inspector, Military Division of the Mississippi.

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, December 27, 1864.

General JOHN B. HOOD,

Comdg. C. S. Army of Tennessee, Bainbridge, Ala.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward by flag of truce, for your information, the inclosed official copy of a dispatch just received from Washington, D. C. This is done that you may furnish the troops of your command more recent, as well as more reliable, intelligence concerning operations in Georgia than that imparted to them during the late campaign in Tennessee.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

CIRCULAR, } HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,

No. 2. }

Pinhook, Tenn., December 27, 1864.

Commanding officers will notify their commands that those who have drawn five days' rations must make it last seven, and those who have drawn four must make it last five, as it is not known when we can get more.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

* See Thomas to Wilson, 26th, 4.30 p. m., p. 263.
† Not found.

CIRCULAR.] HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
In the Field, December 27, 1864.

Commanders of divisions and detached brigades will immediately send a sufficient detail back to the supply train to bring forward five days' rations for their respective commands. If possible, a portion of these rations should be brought forward in wagons, after they have been lightened by the detail. Arrangements should be made to bring bread in sacks, and boxes should not be carried on horses, except in extreme cases. This will be promptly attended to, and these headquarters will be notified when the rations are issued to the men.

By order of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
 No. 15, } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Pinhook Town, December 27, 1864.

* * * * *

II. The Cavalry Corps will move to-morrow morning at 5 o'clock promptly, in the order in which they are now encamped, viz: First, Hammond; second, Hatch; third, Croxton; fourth, Harrison.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
Sugar Creek, December 27, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel ALEXANDER,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: The following dispatch has just been received from the officer commanding the scouting party I sent out on the Rogersville road this morning:

Anderson's Creek, December 27, 1864.

Capt. W. A. SUTHERLAND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Brigade:

CAPTAIN: I have reached Anderson's Creek. Citizens say there were from 200 to 400 rebels passed this road yesterday about 2 o'clock; a great many wounded were along. They were going to cross the river at Land's Ferry or Bainbridge.

Respectfully,

J. E. POLVILLE,
Captain, First Tennessee Cavalry.

The orderly who brought the dispatch did not know whether they were cavalry or infantry.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. CROXTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

REAR GUARD'S DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Paducah, December 27, 1861.

Capt. E. A. DAYENPORT,

Commissary of Subsistence, Fifth Cavalry Division, Columbia:

Come to this place with your train as rapidly as you can without breaking down your noses.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

Captain Dayenport has left Columbia with his train.

WM. R. PLUM,
Operator.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., December 27, 1861—2 p. m.

Major-General WILSON:

The rear guard of Forrest's command passed through here at 10 a. m. under command of General Jackson, U. S. Army. A body from Florence reports that on the 25th instant the enemy were trying to pontoon the Tennessee River at Hambrook; reports that they are fortified at Ball bridge to prevent crossing at said place; bridge was not completed Sunday evening. Gun boats were shelling Florence this morning. You can find forage for 2,000 horses at second creek, eight miles from Paducah. I shall push on as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE SPALDING,
Colonel, Tenth Tennessee Cavalry.

DECATUR, December 27, 1861.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I arrived at the mouth of Limestone Creek, five miles above Decatur; found General Grant there, and the enemy occupying the latter place. Embarked my train and forced a landing below the mouth of Flint Creek, driving the enemy from and occupying this place at 4 p. m. My loss slight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General, Commanding

HUNTSVILLE, December 27, 1861

Major-General STEEDMAN:

I have a pontoon train here in the river, consisting of seventy-four wooden boats, fully equipped. I am directed by the commanding general to hold the train subject to your orders.

P. O'CONNELL,
Major, Comdg. Pontoon Train, First U. S. Vet. Vol. Engineers

HUNTSVILLE, December 27, 1861

Major-General STEEDMAN:

My regiment will reach here in half an hour, at 11 a. m. We have been compelled, in consequence of the rise of the creek, to come around its source, crossing the Cumberland Mountains. We have more

leven miles this morning, over very bad roads, and can go through to Decatur to-day, if necessary; but, if not imperative, it would be better for the horses to make an ordinary march and reach Decatur at 10 a. m. to-morrow. Please [answer] immediately. I will leave a courier here to bring on dispatch.

WM. J. PALMER,
Colonel, Commanding Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

NASHVILLE, December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

The Forty-fifth Missouri Volunteers has been sent to Spring Hill, with directions to follow the advance depot, to guard and load stores. The Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth Missouri are here, and have no transportation and can get none from the quartermaster's department. I will send them through to Columbia by rail, and direct the commanding officer there to haul their baggage to Pulaski with the post train. The Forty-ninth Missouri is not here. I have ordered the Forty-second Missouri, at Fort Donelson, and Forty-third Wisconsin, at Clarksville, to this place, and will put them on the Chattanooga railroad. The One hundred and seventy-third Ohio was originally assigned to General Miller's brigade, but by a subsequent order it was taken out, and the One hundred and eighty-second substituted. As soon as General Miller can spare the One hundred and seventy-third I will use it on the railroad.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
No. 208. } Nashville, Tenn., December 27, 1864.

III. The Forty-seventh Missouri Volunteer Infantry will proceed by rail to-morrow to Columbia, Tenn., and from thence by pike to Pulaski, and take post at that place. The quartermaster's department at Columbia will furnish the necessary wagons to haul the baggage of the regiment to Pulaski.

IV. The Forty-eighth Missouri Volunteer Infantry will proceed by rail on Thursday, December 29, 1864, to Columbia, Tenn., and from thence by pike to Pulaski, and take post at that place. The quartermaster's department at Columbia will furnish the necessary wagons to haul the baggage of the regiment to Pulaski.

By command of Major-General Rousseau:

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 27, 1864.

Major-General MILROY, *Tulahoma:*

Two regiments are coming up the river, and will be sent you at once upon their arrival. Where do you want them? We are awaiting orders department headquarters in reference to the Third and Fourth Michigan.

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1861.
 COMMANDING OFFICER FORTY-FIFTH MISSOURI,
Spring Hill:

Shoot all the stragglers you can catch in the act of plundering trains
 and such as you do not shoot send back to General Miller at Nashville
 W. M. D. WHIPPLE,
Regultery General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
Nashville, Tenn., December 27, 1861.
 COMMANDING OFFICER FORTY-SECOND MISSOURI VOL. INFANTRY:

In pursuance of instructions from Major General Thomas, you will
 move your regiment, by steam boat, without delay, to this place, report-
 ing at these headquarters upon your arrival.

By command of Major General Rousseau:

H. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officer Forty-third Wisconsin Infantry.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
 No. 3. } AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
Manufacturersburg, December 27, 1861.

I. The Twelfth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Cavalry will proceed
 Tullahoma by rail immediately. This regiment will relieve all the
 detachments of the One hundred and fifteenth Ohio Infantry station
 south of Duck River and north of Elk River. The block-houses, No.
 14 and 15 (first two north of Tullahoma), will be garrisoned as follow:
 At No. 14, twenty men and an officer; at No. 15, twelve men and
 efficient non-commissioned officer. The remainder of the regiment will
 be stationed at Tullahoma.

II. Col. Edward Anderson will proceed to Tullahoma with the
 Twelfth Indiana Cavalry, and take command of that post and the
 troops there.

By command of Major General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
December 27, 1861.
 Brig. Gen. J. F. MILLER,
Nashville:

Fire a salute of 100 guns to-morrow, in honor of the capture
 Savannah by General Sherman.

W. M. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 27, 1864.*

Col. A. A. SMITH,
Clarksville:

As soon as transportation can be furnished, send the Forty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, at Clarksville, and the Forty-second Missouri, at Fort Donelson, to this place.

By command of Major-General Rousseau:

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 27, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE STONEMAN,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

I have received the report of this date* of your operations in East Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia, and most cordially congratulate you and the officers and men of your command for your complete and splendid success, and for which you richly deserve, and I have earnestly recommended you receive, the thanks of the War Department. Whilst you were driving Breckinridge from East Tennessee this army gave Hood a very gentle whipping, capturing from him all of sixty-eight pieces of artillery, large numbers of small arms, and several thousand prisoners. His army is now thoroughly demoralized and retreating as rapidly as the roads will permit across the Tennessee. General Sherman has also made a triumphant march through Georgia to Savannah, which place he captured on the 21st instant, with large quantities of stores, arms, and ammunition, and 150 locomotives. The garrison, under Hardee, made its escape by the Union Causeway toward Charleston.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

LEXINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. B. FLY,
Camp Nelson, Ky.:

Lyon's forces are reported moving out by way of Campbellsville. Send out scouts to watch his motions. It is possible he may be driven toward Camp Nelson. Telegraph any information you can get concerning him.

By order of Brevet Major-General Burbridge:

J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, December 27, 1864.

OFFICER IN COMMAND AT LEXINGTON, KY.:

If within your power send me the particulars of the causes for which Lieutenant-Governor Jacob was arrested and sent away.

A. LINCOLN.

* See Part I, p. 307.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 28, 1864—11 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLERK,
Washington, D. C. :

General Crocker writes to me that his health is so far improved that he can take the field, and desires to do so. I have never seen but three or four division commanders his equal, and we want his services. Please order him to report to General Thomas.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 28, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS,
Pulaski, Tenn. :

General Stanton's dispatch is received.* I would respectfully suggest that supplies for the troops pursuing the wrecks of Hood's army be sent to Eastport, or some other point on the Tennessee River; also, that troops not required for this purpose be sent by water to General Dana, to assist in destroying the railroads and supplies in Mississippi, which may otherwise be used by Hood in his retreat.

H. W. HALLERK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 28, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLERK,
Washington, D. C. :

Your telegram of 4 p. m. this day is received. I have already ordered supplies to be sent to Eastport, and General A. J. Smith's command with Hatch's division of cavalry, has been ordered to the same place and I am in hopes will reach there in time to prevent Hood from using the railroad in his retreat. General Sherman recaptured Decatur yesterday at 5 p. m., as he reports, with but little loss. My previous instructions to him were to move as far in the direction of Tusculum as he could, and endeavor to destroy or capture Hood's pontoon, and so prevent him from crossing the Tennessee River, and I feel confident that he will make every exertion to carry out my orders. I telegraphed him again, upon receipt of his reported occupation of Decatur, to the same effect. Generals Wilson and Wood are pressing upon the rear of the enemy, and will, I think, be able definitely to ascertain by to-night whether Hood has crossed the river or not. General Wilson's report of last evening, just received to day, states that prisoners reported to him that Hood had not succeeded in laying his pontoon bridge at Bainbridge up to the morning of the 26th instant. This report was also confirmed by a lady from Florence, whom he saw, and who also informed him that our gunboats were shelling Florence. As soon as I can ascertain which route Hood takes, if successful in crossing the Tennessee, I will pursue him if the roads are at all practicable. Surgeon Cooper, my medical director, informed me this morning that the impression among the wounded rebel prisoners in this place is that Hood will continue his retreat.

* See Part I, p. 207.

Meridian. They give as their reason for believing this that, with our large cavalry force to threaten his railroad communications, Hood could not possibly maintain himself at Corinth or any other point north of Meridian, and hope to cover Montgomery and Selma. My belief is that Hood, if he can, will retreat to Talladega, as, with his army at that point, he would more effectually cover Montgomery and Selma than if at Meridian. Brigadier General Sears, of the rebel army, was found yesterday wounded at a private house on the Elkton pike, and is now a prisoner of war.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

FLAGSHIP FAIRY,
Off Chickasaw, Ala., December 28, 1864. 10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

River is falling very rapidly. Enemy can cross anywhere above Waterloo.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Officers are about leaving these headquarters to join General Sherman. Do you wish to send anything?

J. H. WEBSTER,
Brigadier General.

CHATTANOOGA, December 28, 1861.

Captain RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Can I move by way of Nashville to join the army, or shall I wait for the Decatur road?

J. L. HULLOPETER,
First Lieutenant and Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
 Paducah, December 28, 1861.

Ident. J. L. HULLOPETER,
Actg. Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the Cumberland, Chattanooga.

The major-general commanding directs that you wait for the completion of the Decatur railroad before you move, and when it is finished orders will be given you from these headquarters when and where to move.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1861.

General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

Your telegram about supplies and transportation for Union, on Tennessee, received. All available boats here—five boats and some barges—will leave here this afternoon with the supplies ordered, and these, with the boats already gone up the Tennessee and the gun-boats there, will furnish ample transportation for the troops referred to. Have sent a swift dispatch boat off in advance, to communicate with naval officer at Smithland and Paducah, so as to have convoy ready. Please acknowledge receipt of this.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1861.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

The steamer that had been detained here some days left this morning at daylight for Eastport, with ammunition, commissary stores, &c.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1861.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

The superintendent of the Louisville railroad reports that train will run regularly again to Louisville, to begin on Friday morning. This is encouraging.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 28, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Cumberland, Nashville:

As soon as the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad is opened, I wish all deficiencies in supplies at Chattanooga to be made up at once, and hereafter supplies for 40,000 men for four months should be kept on hand constantly at that point.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1861.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

Telegram received. Will push matter of supplies to Chattanooga as soon as the road is open.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1861.

Genl WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Superintendent of railroad reports that he can send a train through Murfreesborough, and so to Chattanooga, by 4 o'clock (this) afternoon, if desired. Regular train will leave at 2 a. m. Friday. Please answer which hour you decide upon, and I will have train ready.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department, of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 28, 1861.

revet Brigadier-General DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland:

Your dispatch of this date, relative to the sending of rations and supplies up the Tennessee River to Clinton, received. Commence sending rations regularly to Chattanooga on Friday a. m. when you have every reparation made for it.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1861.

General W. D. WHIPPLE:

Lieutenant-Colonel Le Due, acting chief quartermaster of the army, telegraphed yesterday that General Thomas directed that no horses be allowed to go by cars to Franklin. Is this order positive and peremptory, or may I use my discretion as to shipping horses by railroad? Regimental officers are daily arriving here with their commands to go to front, and sometimes general and staff officers; and I would respect-

fully suggest that it is very embarrassing for them to send horses by wagon road, nor is it always safe. We have plenty of cars here to accommodate all such cases, and sometimes it may become necessary to ship even other horses. Please answer immediately.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS,
Paducah, December 28, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Cumberland, Nashville:

The major-general commanding directs me to say, in reply to your of this p. m. relative to the shipment of horses by rail, that that was intended to refer only to artillery and cavalry horses. You can regulate the shipment of all others yourself.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, December 28, 1861.

Major-General THOMAS,

Commanding Department of the Cumberland, Tennessee:

GENERAL: The following is a copy of a telegram sent to your address yesterday:

It is necessary to prepare for railroad operations in Georgia and South Carolina and as the construction corps in the Department of the Cumberland is larger than now needed, and is well trained and organized, it is proposed to transfer one division (about one-fifth of it) to that service. General McDowell has received the necessary instructions. Please give such orders as will facilitate this movement.

M. C. MERIS,
Quartermaster General and Asst. Major-General.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. THOMAS,
Asst. Quartermaster General and Vet. Dirg. Gen., U. S. Army.

RETHURFORD'S CUREN, December 28, 1861.

General W. D. WHIPPLE:

Your dispatch of yesterday is received, also one from General M. Callum, of same date and same purport, with this addition, that I directs me to confer with General Thomas and get his consent to send and take the men. As the Chattanooga road will be opened to-day, M. Sneed's division can be spared for this expedition, and, with General Thomas' consent, I will make arrangements at once for starting. he wishes, I can send another division of bridge-builders to assist M. McDonald on the Decatur end of this road. I have already near 1,000 men here; nearly as many as can work to advantage.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer.

RUTHERFORD'S CREEK, *December 28, 1864.*

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

Rutherford's bridge, No. 1, is about completed, and we are at work on No. 2; will probably be delayed somewhat by the wreck of the old ridge; this is quite a formidable affair. I have had 200 men on it for two days, and it will take at least till night to get it out of the way. Yesterday I sent a large force to work on the south end of Duck River ridge.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, 1 HOURS, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 352. Pulaski, Tenn., *December 28, 1864.*

III. Col. W. W. Wright, chief engineer U. S. military railroads, is hereby temporarily relieved from duty in this department, and will, with one division of the construction corps, proceed, via New York City, to Savannah, Ga., reporting en route, by telegraph, to Brig. Gen. J. O. McCallum, at Washington, D. C., and upon his arrival at Savannah, to Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi. Colonel Wright will take with him such division of the construction corps as will not interfere with or retard the work of repairing the North Alabama Railroad, now in progress. During the absence of Colonel Wright, Mr. E. L. Wentz, in addition to his duties of general superintendent, will perform those of chief engineer of the military railroads of the Military Division of the Mississippi. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By command of Major General Thomas:

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 28, 1864. (Received 12 m. 29th.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Commanding Fourth Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch, dated Pinhook, December 27, 12.30 p. m., is just received. The major-general commanding directs that you order your artillery back to this point to be supplied with forage from the post. He further directs that you hold your infantry where they now are for further orders, ready to move in whatever direction they may be required.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY M. GIST,
Assistant Adjutant General.

LEXINGTON, *December 29, 1864—1 p. m.*

Brig. Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I received the above at 12 m.; I regret it did not reach me earlier. I will not start my artillery back till to-morrow morning.

as the change of a day's march toward the river may induce General Thomas to change his orders with reference to it. If I hear anything from him this afternoon, I will communicate it to you.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 28, 1861.
(Received 3.15 p. m. 20th.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,

Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

GENERAL: Your two dispatches of 7 and 8.30 p. m. yesterday have been received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that it is not expected that you shall send any portion of your force further than the Tennessee River, but as General Wilson has gone on with his command it is necessary that there should be an infantry force to support him and keep pushing until the enemy is driven across the river, when the commands will be placed in camps at such places that they can be supplied with forage and preparations made for a spring campaign. We cannot expect to have everything as we would wish it, but bad roads and other difficulties must be looked for. It seems as though, with the railroad terminus at Spring Hill, the chief quartermaster of your corps might have been able to keep the command supplied with a limited quantity of forage by sending back the empty wagons to be reloaded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Tenn., December 29, 1861—9.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: I have received a note this evening from General Wilson informing me that the last of the enemy crossed the river yesterday evening, and took up the pontoon bridge this morning. This being the case, there is no necessity of going to the Tennessee River as a matter of pursuit. As I have already stated in previous dispatches, the road from Pulaski to the Tennessee River is exceedingly bad, and, in my judgment, utterly impracticable as a route for the supply of troops. My ammunition and hospital trains have not yet reached camp; they are five miles in the rear. I will remain here to await further instructions as to what disposition to make of the corps, but, as my rations will be out in two days, it is of the utmost importance that these orders or additional supplies be sent to me at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Sugar Creek, Tenn., December 28, 1861—6.30 a. m.

Order of the day for the Fourth Corps for to-day:

The corps will move for the Tennessee River to-day, following the cavalry—General Elliott will lead; General Bently will follow; then General Kimball. General Elliott will start at 8 a. m. The trains and artillery will move in the usual order.

By order of Brigadier-General Woods:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., *December 28, 1861.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Pulaski, Tenn.:

The trestle bridge will be completed to-morrow, so that the pontoons can be spared, if they are wanted elsewhere.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 28, 1861—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps, Columbia:

Your dispatch of this date is received. The major-general commanding directs that you have the pontoon bridges taken up as soon as the trestle bridge is completed, and instruct the commanding officer in charge of the pontoon train to fully prepare his command to move as soon as he receives orders from these headquarters—that is, to provide himself with rations and forage.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, Tenn., December 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. J. SMITH,

Commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee.

GENERAL: The major general commanding the forces in the field directs that you start to-morrow morning with your command for Eastport, Tenn. [Miss.], marching by way of Lawrence and Waynesborough to Clifton, on the Tennessee River. Steamers have been ordered to Clifton sufficient for the transportation of your men, with the supposition that upon these boats you will be able to transfer your command to Eastport in two trips, and it was directed that sufficient provisions should be placed upon these boats for the use of your troops during the transit. Upon your arrival at Eastport you will select a good position for the encampment of your troops during the winter, as it is expected they will remain there for some months, and provided with such reorganization as your command may require, and fit it generally for an early spring campaign. A portion of General Wilson's command has been ordered to Eastport, for the purpose of destroying the railroad bridge over Big Bear Creek, and in this enterprise you will afford him such support as he may require. At Eastport you will find steamers, under covers of gun boats, loaded with provisions, forage, ammunition, medical supplies, and clothing. The ammunition and clothing are such as you stated you would require in case you were ordered to that place.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

Pulaski, Tenn., December 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,

Commanding First Division.

The major general commanding directs that to-morrow all divisions take with them the regimental wagons and artillery. The supply trains will follow in the same order of precedence as the troop march. The division in the rear will each day throw out a rear guard and take charge of the supply train. Quartermasters must take the immediate supervision of their trains, and remain with them until they get into camp. The order of march to-morrow will be as follows: First Division at 7 a. m. promptly; Second Division at 8 a. m.; Third Division at 9 a. m. On arriving at Pulaski a guide will be furnished the leading division.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOUGH,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

to 200 rebels. The major-general commanding directs that, as soon you have ascertained that the rebels are across the Tennessee River, send a sufficient force to look after these cattle and gather them in.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY M. CIST,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 28, 1864—12 m.

J. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdy. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your dispatch dated Pinhook, December 27, 12:30 p. m., just received. The major-general commanding directs that as soon you have ascertained that the rebel army has crossed the Tennessee River, that you move your command, with the exception of Hatch's division, back to this place, that they may be supplied with forage. He directs that you send Hatch's division, of your command, to Eastport, as wishes at least enough cavalry on the Tennessee River to operate in conjunction with General Smith's command, which has been ordered to that place. If Hatch's division cannot move from where they now are to Eastport, he directs that they return to this place, to be furnished with supplies and then move, via Lawrenceburg, Waynesborough, and Clifton, that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY M. CIST,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 28, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General WILSON,

Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch dated December 27, 6 p. m., just received. The major-general commanding directs that you push on as rapidly as possible. He says that you and General Wood have a glorious chance to do efficient service. Full supplies of rations for your entire command will be in this place this evening, and the general says that he will push them out to you as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY M. CIST,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Bull's Mills, Blue Water Creek, Ala., December 28, 1864—1 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff:

I have just received a dispatch from Colonel Spaulding, one mile and a half from Bainbridge, saying the rebel rear guard crossed the Tennessee last night and took up the pontoon bridge before daylight this morning. My headquarters are ten miles from Bainbridge, and my

command just arriving at the Blue Water Creek. Shall I return to Pulaski or go to Waterfoot? If you wish my command to occupy a position on or near the Tennessee, while refitting and reorganizing Tusculum would probably be the best, as the landing and river could be used for bringing supplies of forage, rations, horses, &c., and at the same time we could draw upon the Tennessee Valley as far up as Decatur. It would, however, be imprudent to occupy Tusculum with cavalry, unless it is made a base for infantry also. My command is now in that condition which renders it necessary to have the question of resupplies and reorganization fully settled as soon as possible. I am telegraphed me that the last of his division would leave Louisville today. I send Lieutenant Prather, of my staff, with this. He will explain our condition and the nature of the country. General Wood marched this morning with me, but (he) cannot be much this side Lexington. The roads are intolerable, and I think impassable for trains.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 28, 1861—8 p. m.

Brevet Major-General Wilson,
Comdy. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

Your note of 4.30 p. m. received.* Under the circumstances I will remain at or near my present position until orders are received from General Thomas, with whom I will try to communicate at the earliest moment. If we had any assurance that we would find supplies on the river, it would be well, in my judgment, to go there, but this is a matter for which we should await General Thomas' order.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers

BIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Hull's Mills, Blue Water, December 28, 1861

Colonel SPRADLING:

Please report at once what information you have obtained regard the movements of the enemy and his present position; also report whether you have received dispatches for General Hood, sent to you this morning by an orderly.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1861—4 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Pulaski, Tenn.:

I arrived here to-day with Watkins' brigade and the artillery. I will need two or three days to shoe horses. Colonel La Grange

* See Alexander to Wood, 4.30 p. m. 27th (28th?), p. 376.

Elizabethtown, yesterday captured 30 more of Lyon's men, including 1 major and 1 lieutenant on his staff and another field and line officer. The condition of his horses compels a discontinuance of the pursuit. We have had one of the hardest trips I ever made, having marched more than 300 miles, over the worst roads I ever saw. Watkins is in tolerably good condition. La Grange is in need of rest, and will not be here for four or five days. Please send me orders.

E. M. McCOOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Bull's Mills, December 28, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General CRONTON,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding desires you to send one battalion of your command to the Tennessee River, via Center Star. The commanding officer will communicate with the detachment sent out by you yesterday; will find out where the enemy have gone, and will tumble logs into the river to-night. He will send all the information he can get in to-night, and will also send word how much forage can be had in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1864.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The Eighth Michigan, 430 strong, fully mounted, will be here to-night or to-morrow. Had impressed a sufficient number of horses before I received your last instructions on this subject. I suppose he will require a day or so to shoe up. Shall I then send him forward? I sent Harrison three days ago 125 men of Fifth Iowa, and will send fifty of Seventh Ohio by day after to-morrow. The Eighth Michigan is armed with pistols and sabers only; no carbines here.

B. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE:

The Third and Fourth Michigan are at Murfreesborough orders. Steam-boats have gone to bring up the Forty-second Missouri and Forty-third Wisconsin. As soon as they arrive I will send them to General Milroy.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

TULLAHOMA, December 28, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

The Sixty-eighth Indiana went down by Bridgeport on the 20th instant, and the Eighth Kentucky went yesterday morning.

R. H. MILLROY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, Tenn., December 28, 1864.

Major-General STEEDMAN,

Decatur, Ala.

Your dispatch of the 27th received. I am very much gratified with your operations against Decatur. The roads from here to Florence are in an almost impassable condition, and the country is completely desolated that we can scarcely get any supplies, but the enemy has been vigorously pursued as circumstances will admit. It is reported that Hood crossed at Lamb's Ferry and Bainbridge with what force he could get off. He is represented as being in most deplorable condition. I shall try to intercept him at Tuba, if he retreats that way, and I want you to push a strong reconnaissance toward Lamb's Ferry, to see if he has retreated by way of Courtland and Moulton.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

DECATUR, December 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

I am preparing and will move in the direction of Courtland this afternoon. I am compelled to go without transportation, my wagons have failed to reach me. I sent my wagons and surplus ammunition by transports, conveyed by the gun boats, to McKen's Bluff. It is rumored that a part of Hood's army has crossed at Lamb's Ferry, but I can get no certain information. We recaptured locomotives and fourteen cars from the enemy. The road will be repaired to this point, I think to-day.

JAN. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

BRIDGE PORT, December 28, 1864.

Major-General STEEDMAN,

Decatur:

Your telegram of the 27th instant is received. I will start for Decatur immediately with the pontoons. Please send me a steamer or gun-boat to convoy and tow me down. There may be some danger in going down without a convoy, and we will travel very slow unless taken tow by a steamer. It will take thirty-six hours to float down.

P. O'CONNELL,
Major, Commanding Pontoons.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Six Miles from Decatur, on Courtland Road,
December 29 [28], 1861—10 p. m.

General STEEDMAN:

(GENERAL: I struck the rebel pickets at Boldin's place, four miles and three-quarters from Decatur, and met the main force close behind them, pursuing it to this point, where we captured all the artillery they had, consisting of two 12 pounders, with caissons and horses attached, six prisoners, and a few cavalry horses. My loss is nothing, the advance guard charging so boldly that the rebels fired but a few shots and ran off, leaving their guns in the hands of a sergeant and fifteen men of the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. Colonel Windes was in command of the rebels, and told Mr. Boldin (citizen), with whom he took supper, that two regiments of cavalry were coming up to assist him to night. He received a dispatch at the table, which he said announced this. Mr. Boldin also learned that Hood had crossed at Bainbridge. Two of the prisoners captured state the same thing, and one of them, a hospital steward, is very circumstantial; question him. I see a light in the direction of Lamb's Ferry, or Brown's Ferry, which I take to be the fires of the two cavalry regiments coming to assist Colonel Windes. I would have continued pursuit to Hillsborough, but that my horses would not in that event have been fit for hard work to-morrow.

Yours, respectfully,

WM. J. PALMER.

DECATUR, December 28, 1861—10.30 p. m.
(Received 29th.)

Major-General THOMAS:

A part of my command is now garrisoning Decatur, which was abandoned by the enemy without a fight. I understood he commenced evacuating the place as soon as he heard of the crossing of General Steedman's command. General Steedman left this evening in the direction of Courtland. Considerable force of cavalry reported trying to cross at Gunterville. No news from down the river. Cars and locomotives left at Huntsville recaptured. Road is running this evening from Decatur to Stevenson.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

HUNTSVILLE, December 29, 1861.

Lieut. SAM. M. KNEELAND,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Decatur, Ala.:

I have just received the following from the commanding officer at Paint Rock bridge. I do not credit the report:

Colonel LYON:

It is reported to me that a considerable force of rebels is in the vicinity of Clayville now, and that there is a much larger force at or near Gunterville preparing to cross. We got our information from negroes and citizens. All credit I put in it is to keep a sharp lookout for them. All quiet here.

WM. P. LYON,
Col. Thirteenth Wisconsin Veteran Volunteer Infantry, Comdg.
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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Columbia, Tenn., December 28, 1861.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. SEAGERMAN,
Knoxville, Tenn.

I have seen your report* to General Thomas of your late operations, and congratulate you most heartily upon your complete success and vindication of your reputation as a general. I may now inform you that, while you were preparing for your late expedition, I was ordered by General Grant and the Secretary of War to relieve you from command, on the ground of your failure in Georgia. The order was revoked upon my official protest and assumption of the responsibility for the result. I regret, general, the necessity of calling your attention to the fact that since your absence from your expedition you have not thought proper to make any report to me of your operations, although specially requested to do so. I shall be glad of any explanation of the course you appear to have adopted in this respect.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

LEXINGTON, December 28, 1861.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

President of the United States, Washington, D. C.:

So far as I am informed, Lieutenant Governor Smith's offense was nothing treasonable and seditionary, calculated and intended to weaken the power of the Government in its efforts to suppress the rebellion. His arrest was advised by Doctor Breckinridge and other prominent legal men of Kentucky. General Breckinridge will address you fully on the subject upon his return. I have had no communication with him since the 11th instant, and do not know his present location.

Respectfully,

J. HAYES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, Tenn., December 29, 1861—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HARRISON,
Washington, D. C.:

The following dispatch, received this p. m. from General Wilson, forwarded for your information:

I have to-day a dispatch from Admiral Lee, dated Flagship Fair Tennessee River, off Chickasaw, Ala., December 27, which says he arrived at Chickasaw on the 24th instant, and destroyed a new iron and magazine, as well as all the visible means of the enemy for crossing the river below Florence. He also destroyed a number of flats on pontoons at Garner's Ferry, where the enemy crossed his prisoners on the 19th. The day he dispatched me he destroyed two guns and caissons at Florence Landing. Hood's troops arriving near Florence are said to declare that they do not know where his main army is; that they had orders to scatter and care for themselves; and that no one

* See Part I, p. 207.

† See Wilson to Whipple, 4 p. m. 20th (p. 207), containing that portion beginning "I send Lieutenant Fratcher," and ending "this side of Lexington."

nesses troops had come to the river since Hood's defeat. One hundred wagons and a great many troops had been grievously disappointed at his destruction of the ferry-boats at Garner's Ferry, which obliged them to move thence up the river. He also states that transports with supplies had arrived at Florence that day, and would go forward to Eastport next morning, where, under the protection of the gun-boats, they would await the arrival of the troops. A dispatch from General Steedman, of the 28th instant, dated at Decatur, says he would start with a portion of his command on the afternoon of that day for Courtland. The railroad is in running order from Stevenson to Decatur. In consequence of the terribly bad weather, almost impassable condition of the roads, and exhausted country, the troops and animals are so much worn down by the fatigues of the last two weeks that it becomes necessary to halt for a short time to reorganize and rest for a renewal of the campaign, if Hood should halt at Corinth. Should he continue his retreat to Meridian, as supposed by many of his officers who have been taken prisoners, I think it would be best for the troops to be allowed till early spring, when the roads will be in a condition to make a campaign into the heart of the enemy's country. I have made diligent inquiries concerning the resources of the country, and believe that an army would find ample supplies on two or three routes south—one in the vicinity of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad; one through the middle of Alabama, from Decatur south; and a third along the west side of the Coosa; all three of which I believe would be practicable in the spring and summer, but are altogether impracticable at this season of the year. If I ascertain, therefore, that Hood has not halted at Corinth, but retreated farther south, I will place the troops at Eastport, Huntsville, and Dalton, where they can be easily supplied, and from which points they can be readily assembled to make a spring campaign.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C. :

In my letter of recommendations for promotion, I forgot to mention the name of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, whose confirmation I recommend for gallant conduct and good generalship. The names of the two colonels mentioned by him for promotion are Col. W. L. McMillen, Ninety-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Col. L. F. Hubbard, Fifth Minnesota, for gallant conduct in the battles of Richland Creek and Brentwood Hills before Nashville, December 15 and 16 instant.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding

FLAG-SHIP FAIRY,
Eastport, Miss., December 29, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS.

Enemy are erecting battery on heights above Eastport, in position which we formerly had and they subsequently occupied. I am annoying their working party. The river has fallen so low that Hood can cross above without interruption from navy.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864—10 p. m.
 (Via Paducah.)

Admiral S. P. LEE,

Comdy. Miss. Squadron, Flagship Fairy, Chickasaw, Ala.:

Your two telegrams have been received.* We have been pressing the enemy as hard as the condition of the roads would permit, and have succeeded in taking some few prisoners, probably 500 or 600, since the enemy crossed Duck River. From the best information I have at this time, Hood's losses since he invaded the State of Tennessee sum up as follows: 8 general officers killed, 8 wounded, and 1 taken prisoner at Franklin, 13 in all, and about 6,000 men killed, wounded, and taken prisoners at same battle. On the 31st [11th] instant, at Murfreesborough, he had one general officer wounded, about 70 men killed, and 207 taken prisoners, and losing 2 pieces of artillery. In the two battles of the 15th and 16th instant, before Nashville, he had 1 lieutenant-general severely wounded, 1 major-general and 3 brigadier-generals, with 4,462 officers and men, made prisoners, besides losing 264 pieces of artillery and over 3,000 stand of small arms. During his retreat we have captured 15 more guns and from 1,500 to 2,000 prisoners, and a large number of small arms have been picked up by the way. Citizens report here that he passed this place with his army completely disorganized, except the rear guard, composed of about 5,000 men. He destroyed a considerable quantity of ammunition at this place, besides abandoning an ammunition train of 15 or 20 wagons about a mile beyond. Your efficient co-operation on the Tennessee River has contributed largely to the demoralization of Hood's army. General A. J. Smith, commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee, will probably reach Clifton by Sunday next (January 1, 1865), where transports are expected to meet him, to take his command to Eastport. Please afford him every assistance in your power in effecting a secure lodgment at Eastport, and as I consider the Cumberland River now entirely safe, I will be obliged to you if you will have a strong force kept on the Tennessee, to keep open the navigation on that river. In concluding this dispatch, it gives me great pleasure to tender to you, your officers, and men my hearty thanks for your cordial co-operation during the operations of the past thirty days.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. M. O. MEIGS,

Washington:

The necessary orders have been given for Colonel Wright, with one division of construction corps, to go to Savannah.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

(Same to Brig. Gen. D. O. McCallum.)

* Probably 27th and 28th, pp. 371, 380.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864.

Col. J. G. PARKHURST,
Provost-Marshal-General, Nashville:

Can you inform me how many prisoners of war have been sent in up to this date, including those from battle of Franklin and those enrolled in Franklin, Spring Hill, and Columbia hospitals?

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, December 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Whole number of prisoners of war reported to this office to date, including battle of Franklin: Commissioned officers, 557; enlisted men, 7,873; making a total of 8,430 prisoners—this does not include the prisoners captured at Murfreesborough. There are probably 350 prisoners there, but I have no official report relative to them, though I have called for it. I will give you rank of officers in written report. Good many deserters are coming in.

J. G. PARKHURST,
Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.

NASHVILLE, December 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

It is desirable to reopen the Northwestern railroad for some distance at least, for the purpose of securing the wood already contracted and partly paid for on the line of it. The expense, it is reported, will not be great for the length we want reopened, and I respectfully ask permission of the major-general commanding to reopen what I thus find necessary.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

You are authorized to reopen the Northwestern railroad, as you propose.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, December 29, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

Please say to the major-general commanding I have over a week past been engaged in repairing roads and bridges about Nashville, particularly on the Franklin and Murfreesborough pikes, and will soon have necessary work completed.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONATIGAN,
Nashville.

Yours reporting repairs on turnpikes received; also, yours reporting quantity of clothing at Chattanooga. It does not seem necessary to send more to that place, except upon requisition; so says the general.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

NASHVILLE, December 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

I estimate that the railroad will be completed in ninety days. There is a large force engaged on the work, and everything is being done that can be done to push forward the work. Mr. Encholdtz is doing his best.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864.

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,
Carter's Creek.

Where will the written order reach you? Do not leave until you have given all necessary instructions for the completion of this part of the railroad.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, December 29, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE:

Written orders will reach me here, care of Mr. Wentz. It will take two or three days to put everything in proper shape for the rapid prosecution of the work after I leave.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 29, 1864.

OFFICER IN CHARGE OF PONTOON BRIDGE AT COLUMBIA:

Take up pontoon bridges at Columbia and take them to Elkton, and there put them down across Elk River. Do this as soon as trestle bridge over Duck River is done. Answer.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

NASHVILLE, TENN., *December 29, 1861—7 p. m.*

aj. THOMAS T. BOKERT:

General A. J. Smith marched to-day from Pulaski for Eastport. I am ordered to prepare to build telegraph west from Decatur on Memphis and Charleston Railroad. Rivers getting low very fast. Railroad to Chattanooga and Louisville in order again. Roads drying up, so movements may work.

J. C. VAN DUZER,
Captain, &c.

[DECEMBER 20, 1861.—For General Orders, No. 169, Department of the Cumberland, announcing close of campaign, &c., see Part I, p. 50.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 29, 1861—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of the 28th instant, directing the artillery with me to be sent back and to retain the infantry where it was, was not received until 12 m. to-day. The commanding general was fully advised at 8.30 p. m. December 27 that I would move forward the next morning to support the cavalry, as General Wilson had determined to continue the pursuit farther toward the Tennessee River. As we have advanced one day's march farther south, it occurs to me that the commanding general may not possibly desire the artillery now with me to be sent back to Pulaski. I will, therefore, retain it here until to-morrow morning, by which time, I trust, I will receive an answer to my dispatch of yesterday evening, announcing that the enemy had crossed the river, and asking for orders. If I receive no further orders by to-morrow morning I will send the artillery back to Pulaski and retain the infantry here to await further instructions. In the meantime I will try to get up my supply train from the rear to subsist the infantry.

I repeat that I should be glad to have full instructions from the commanding general for our further movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 29, 1861—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch dated December 28, in reply to my dispatches dated 7 and 8.30 p. m. December 27, has just been received. I desire to state to the commanding general that my note in regard to the forage was by no means intended as a complaint, but was simply designed to communicate a fact and inform him of my situation in regard to forage and other supplies, as I was instructed to do. I have no reason to suppose that the chief quartermaster has been at all remiss in getting up forage from the railroad terminus, for the truth is that it has required the entire capacity of my train to get up subsistence for the men for so long a distance. I did not suppose that it was the general's intention to cross the Tennessee River immediately, but supposing that it would be done at an early day with a view to further operations, it occurred to me

that I might facilitate this by not taking position on the river at the earliest possible moment at which it was anticipated could be obtained there. Hence the reference in my message of 12.30 p. m. of the 27th instant in regard to taking position on the Tennessee River for ulterior objects beyond the present pursuit.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THE J. WOOD,
Responsible Command of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, Tenn., December 29, 1861.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD, Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The fact of the rebel forces having been driven across the Tennessee River, the major general commanding directs that the pursuit cease, and that you immediately send your regiments to Huntsville, Athens, and vicinity, and there you look for the winter, and attend to the reorganization of your command and fitting it generally for an early spring campaign. The Cavalry Corps, with the exception of one division, has also been ordered to Huntsville for the winter. Should you be unable, from lack of food or want of security of forage, to march directly to Huntsville, you may return back to this point and march from here, or you may march direct about your way by this route, via Kipton. The major general commanding the forces in the field tenders his thanks to yourself, your officers and men, for the vigor, bravery, and willing endurance of yourselves and leadership displayed by your command during this long and laborious pursuit of the retreating rebel army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Responsible Command and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Tenn., December 29, 1861—12.15 p. m.

Division commanders will at once send back their pioneer brigades to the rear, to repair the road or cut out new roads from this point to a point eight miles back toward Paducah. Each brigade must be under command of a competent and efficient field officer. General Elliot's pioneer brigade will repair the road from this point to a point three miles back; General Kimball's pioneer brigade will repair the road from a point three miles in the rear to a point five miles and a half in the rear; and General Beatty's pioneer brigade will repair the rest of the road to a point eight miles in the rear.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. H. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, December 29, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOTT, Comdg. Army of the Ohio, Columbia:

Can you inform me how many flags were captured by Twenty-third Corps, including battle of Franklin and since?

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, December 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE:

The Twenty-third Corps captured twenty-one flags at Franklin, nine of which I now have; none have been captured since. What news from the front?

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Army of the Ohio, Columbia:

GENERAL: The rebel army having been entirely driven across the Tennessee River, the major general commanding the forces in the field has ordered the pursuit to cease, and directs that you march with the Twenty-third Army Corps to Dalton, via this place and Huntsville, or Fayetteville, encamping the corps at Dalton for the winter, and making such reorganization and refitting as is necessary and preparing generally for an early spring campaign. You will load your wagons at Spring Hill with sufficient to take you to Huntsville, where you can replenish.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Columbia, Tenn., December 29, 1864.

COMD'G. OFFICER PONTOON TRAIN, ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND:

SIR: The commanding general directs that you have the pontoon bridges taken up as soon as the trestle bridge is completed, and also that you provide your command with rations and forage, and be prepared to move as soon as you receive orders from Major-General Thomas.

Very respectfully,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 101. } In the Field, Columbia, Tenn.,
December 29, 1864.

VIII. The First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, is hereby reorganized as follows, under command of Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Ruger, the old First and Second Brigades, broken up by paragraph 1X, Special Field Orders, No. 79, current series, from these headquarters, being restored:

First Brigade: One hundred and twentieth Indiana, Captain Barena; One hundred and twenty-fourth Indiana, Colonel Orr; One hundred and twenty-eighth Indiana, Colonel Packard.

Second Brigade: One hundred and twenty third Indiana, Colonel McQuistion; One hundred and twenty ninth Indiana, Colonel Zollinger; One hundred and thirty fifth Indiana, Colonel Parrish.

Third Brigade: Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and seventy fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, One hundred and seventy eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

These brigades will be increased by the addition of new regiments as soon as the latter shall join the corps. The one hundred and eighty first Ohio Volunteer Infantry is assigned to the Second Division, Twenty third Army Corps, Major General Couch commanding. The one hundred and seventy seventh Ohio and one hundred and forty first Indiana Volunteer Infantry are assigned to the Third Division, Twenty third Army Corps, Brigadier General Cox commanding. These regiments will be assigned to brigades by the division commanders. The order will take effect immediately. Regimental commanders will accordingly report without delay to the general commanding division to which they are assigned.

* * * * *

By command of Major General Schofield

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

In Camp, Nine Miles from Pulaski, Tenn., December 29, 1861.

Major General G. H. Thomas,

Commanding Forces in the Field:

The head of my column straggles to night nine miles from Pulaski awaiting my supply train. Hereafter, if the roads continue as good as we have found them, we will make from twelve to fifteen miles per day with the supply train. Learning that Hood has gone to Corinth, will take all necessary precaution until the cavalry arrive, and the feel them. If sufficiently reinforced, shall I attack? I will be prudent you may depend.

Very respectfully,

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

Camp in the Field, December 29, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,

Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your division in readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 30 at 9 a. m., in rear of Third Division, and taking charge of train.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Camp in the Field, Tenn., December 29, 1864.

sig. Gen. K. CHARRARD, *Commanding Second Division:*

The major-general commanding directs that you have your division readiness and move to-morrow morning, December 30, at 7 o'clock, to Second Division in front.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOUGH,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Col. J. B. Moore, commanding Third Division.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 29, 1864.

sig. Gen. J. H. WILSON,

Comdy. Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your communication of 4 p. m. yesterday has been received. The rebel army having been entirely driven across the Tennessee River, the major-general commanding directs that you send one division of your corps to Eastport, to remain during the winter. To his point, Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, with his command, has also been ordered. You will proceed with the remainder of your force to Huntsville, Ala., put it in camp for the winter, and attend to its reorganization, equipment, remounting, and making general preparation for an early spring campaign. To this point and Athens, the Fourth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. T. J. Wood commanding, has also been ordered. The region of country about Huntsville is very productive, and from it you will be able to draw much forage for your command this winter. Should the division sent to Eastport be unable, from bad roads or scarcity of forage, to march directly across the country, it can be sent back to this place and across, by way of Lawrenceburg and Waynesborough, to Clifton, at the latter of which places forage can be sent it by steamers. This is the road taken by General Smith. Should the main portion of your corps be unable, for similar reasons, to march directly to Huntsville from where you now are, it can also return to this place and march down the roads leading parallel to the railroad, or you can march across the country and send your wagons by this route. The major-general commanding tenders his thanks to yourself, officers, and men for the vigor, skill, bravery, and endurance displayed by your corps in this long and toilsome pursuit of the retreating rebel army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Blue Water Creek, Ala., December 29, 1864—3 p. m.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of dispatches from headquarters Department of the Cumberland, December 28, 12 m. and p. m. Croxton's brigade, 1,500 strong, marched from Taylor's Springs this morning, via Gravelly Springs, to Waterloo, with instructions cross the river at that place, and, if possible, destroy the Bear Creek bridge. No orders to the contrary having been received, Croxton was sent, his command being in better condition to accomplish the work.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Bull's Mills, December 29, 1864—7 a. m.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Corps:

GENERAL: Your note of 8 p. m. 28th was received during the night. I agree with you that, unless General Thomas intends to leave us on the Tennessee, there is no occasion for us to go farther. I have ordered Broxton one day's march on the road to Waterloo, in anticipation of instructions to destroy the Bear Creek bridge, and have sent a staff officer to Florence to communicate with the gun-boats and transports. I shall remain in camp here to-day, where we can obtain forage, and where dispatches may reach us from General Thomas.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, December 29, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I will also remain here to await instructions from General Thomas. Please communicate to me the result of your staff officers' visit to Florence.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 29, 1864.

Brevet Major-General WILSON,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I have reliable information that there is a party of guerrillas, about 100 in number, near Wise's Mill, on Blue Water, about six miles west of here. This party is splendidly mounted and well armed. It is reported that they have some of the best horses in the country. There are two men who live near the mill who will act as guides to the locality of this band. Mr. Wise, at the mill, will tell where these two men can be found and who they are. I will send an infantry force out to the same place in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 29, 1864.

Brevet Major-General WILSON:

GENERAL: I have read your dispatch of this p. m. to General Whipple with great satisfaction, and fully concur in your views. I have suggested similar views to General Thomas, though not so pointedly as you have done in your dispatch. If we are to take post on the Tennessee River at all, it certainly will be a great waste of material and labor

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
No. 7. } *Tullahoma, December 29, 1864.*

The Twenty-ninth Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry is hereby assigned to the Third Brigade of this command, and will make all reports to Col. W. Krzyzanowski, commanding brigade, headquarters at Stevenson.

By command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF MURFREESBOROUGH,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., December 29, 1864.

Gentlemen-Colonel BLACKBURN:

I send you a true copy of a dispatch that General Van Cleve has just received from General Milroy:

One hundred and fifty rebel cavalry crossed the railroad, half a mile north of this place, at 12 o'clock last night. They captured two of the Fifth Tennessee Cavalry, who got away after crossing the railroad, and said there was a rebel general with them who had been cut off from Hood and was trying to go through East Tennessee. Can't you send word to Blackburn to cut them off about McMinnville. The Fifth are all out west.

You will carry out the above instructions.

By command of Brigadier-General Van Cleve:

H. H. SHEETS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JAMES H. STEEDMAN,
Decatur:

(To be forwarded.)

Your dispatch of 28th is received. I wish you to keep me promptly informed of all your movements. The troops will commence moving to-morrow toward Decatur, and will soon be in supporting distance if it should become necessary.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 29, 1864—10.50 p. m. (Received 12 m. 31st.)

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,
Decatur, Ala.:

Your telegram of 10.50 p. m. [28th] this date is received. You will set to work and reorganize your post, and make arrangements to receive and take care of a large amount of stores at Decatur.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

BIRMINGHAM, December 29, 1861.

Captain FORT.

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have 150 men at work on the fortifications of this place. I am in want of an engineer officer to take charge of the works; can one be ordered?

A. O. MILLINGTON,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

HUGHES, FIRST BRIG., FOURTH DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
Cumberland Gap, December 29, 1861.

Brigadier-General AMMEY,

Commanding Fourth Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 21st instant. I have complied with the instructions therein contained, relative to prisoners, by sending to Knoxville under guard all those here. Some of them, Isaac Litteral and Jesse F. McNeal, are notoriously bad characters, having been engaged in deliberate murders, not only of Union soldiers but of women; they certainly do not merit the treatment they are receiving, i. e., that of Confederate prisoners, but death. I had counted largely upon the effect their execution here would have produced; an effect, I feel sure, which would have been most happy. McNeal has always been a most desperate character, and many witnesses to his fiendish acts are now living at this place. Unfortunately the matter of killing them without making prisoners of them is next to impossible, as they have to be tracked to their holes before they can be seen at all. Had I been allowed to have shot them before the command it would have struck a terror to the hearts of such of their fraternity as still are at large as would have compelled them to the pursuance of a different course. I am well satisfied, however, with the fact of having since my arrival at this post captured two and shot one of the Litterals, and of having captured a number of other men of whom the whole of this section of the country stands in awe. I send tomorrow, with the other prisoners, a man, by name William Ball, who has, it seems, been before arrested and on various charges, but who has, through some means or other, been allowed to go at liberty. My reason for arresting him was that an escaped prisoner of ours, while standing near a fire up Virginia Valley, surrounded by Litteral's party, saw Mr. Ball ride up and state that one of our wagon trains was to leave the Gap next day, and advised them to be on the watch so as to capture it. This I got from the man himself who heard the conversation. Mr. Ball has, I think, some claim against the United States, now before the courts in Knoxville, for damages, which claim, if paid, will be so much money out of the pocket of the Government put into that of an armed rebel. I trust he may be dealt with as the nature of his case merits.

Two men, Franklin Woodward and Daniel M. Chappell, of Thirty-fourth Kentucky Infantry, who were tried by court-martial, were taken away by Colonel Dillard before their sentences were promulgated. They are sentenced as explained in General Orders, Nos. 27 and 28, November 29 and December 14, from headquarters District of East Tennessee. They are now with their regiments. Another man whom I send, and by name John Stevens, Battery M, First Michigan Light Artillery, is sentenced as explained in General Orders, No. 27, above referred to.

also forward five men, Samuel Brown, Albert Cherry, George Yeager, Henry B. Nugent, and Ephraim A. Hill, sent in here yesterday by Lieutenant Jennings, who states that Captain Hazen delivered them to him as men who had straggled from their commands and allowed themselves to be taken prisoners. They had in their possession an informal document, purporting to be a parole, which they were made to sign; they had torn it, but I have the fragments. These men belong to the Second Ohio Heavy Artillery.

Captain Beebe, of the Second Tennessee Battery, now at this post, sent me the inclosed communication relative to an officer of his battery, who was commissioned at Nashville and sent to him when his battery had its complement of officers. This practice on the part of the authorities at Nashville of mustering officers, independently of my recommendations of the commanding officers of the different Tennessee organizations, is not confined to the case cited, but appears to be of rather frequent occurrence. Meritorious non-commissioned officers and privates are thus prevented receiving the promotion due them for long and faithful service. As applied to this command, the action of authorities generally appears to me to be at least unjust. The command seems to be regarded as an independent affair, capable of self-government and entitled to but little, if any, consideration. Applications of different kinds are noticed, or not, just as the fancy strikes the recipient of them, and thus both officers and men feel justly dispirited and disheartened. For instance, applications for discharge to enable men to accept commissions have been delayed for months, and telegrams on the subject from me receive no more notice than if they had not been sent. If there was any possible way of reminding them that this was a garrison, and an important one, too, I should like to employ it, though I suppose we must hear it as best we may. It is, in my opinion, very necessary that a board for the examination of officers be appointed immediately. The ignorance of many of the officers is truly deplorable, many, yes the majority of them, being apparently ignorant of the fact that there is any such thing as grammar, or that an officer ought to be able to write. In the Second Tennessee Battery, the officers, Captain Beebe tells me, are of no service to him at all, whereas he has a sergeant who is a valuable man, but who cannot be mustered till a vacancy exists. There are many cases, too, which require the action of court-martial; some of the charges are herewith forwarded. The case of Lieutenant Jennings, of my regiment, is one of the most aggravated I know of. I have also a number of men who should be dealt with severely. Cannot a court-martial be ordered to convene here at once?

We are beginning to get forage in again rapidly. Yesterday our train brought in about 1,200 bushels. I want very much to have here a cavalry force which can be used from time to time in scouting about the country.

The permission I received to buy horses has been improved, and now I want saddles and bridles. If I could get about 150 sets of horse equipments I should have a cavalry command ready to throw out at a moment's notice, and I feel sure the result would be advantageous. Will you please order a commissary of musters to be sent here immediately. Many of the officers need to be mustered, and, as pay-day is approaching, the sooner it be done the better. I hope we shall have the pleasure of extending the hospitalities of the Gap before long, and that we can show you some improvements. I obtained permission to send Major Babney off to Camp Chase and Douglas, and in a few weeks I hope to be able to show at least 700 or 800 men. I telegraphed relative to the issue of arms to citizens. This I, of course, wanted to do

by having the loyal men organized into companies for three months—say, to have them regularly mustered and paid by the United States. We could then have a guard in the counties of Hancock, Claiborne and Lee, which would materially assist in putting down the guerrillas who raise so much trouble about here. I have seen many of these good, loyal men, and they are all anxiously bent upon fighting the rebel bands referred to, asking only for arms, &c. I can learn nothing of the rebel cavalry of which you telegraphed me, though I will look out for them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. C. BARTLETT,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

SPECIAL ORDER, REGUS. MILITARY DIST. OF KENTUCKY,
No. 103, Lexington, Ky., December 29, 1861.

III, Brig. Gen. L. H. Hobson is hereby assigned to the command of the First Division of this military district, vice Brig. Gen. N. C. McLean, relieved by order from headquarters Army of the Ohio.

By command of Brig. Maj. General Barbridge:
J. BATES DICKSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

INDUSTRIA, OHIO, December 29, 1861.

Capt. J. BATES DICKSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I am on my way to Cincinnati. I telegraphed you from Catlettsburg last night. Expedition a success. Breckinridge defeated and his department broken up. Our loss slight. General and commando way home. Please have rations at Mount Sterling by January 1. A in good spirits. I sent the general's report to Secretary of War, while was my errand from Catlettsburg.

H. P. BARDEN,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

REGUS. MILITARY DIVISION OF WEST MISSISSIPPI,
New Orleans, La., December 29, 1861.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLIDAY,
Chief of Staff, &c., Washington, D. C.

The operations of Generals Dana and Davidson from the Mississippi and General Granger from the Gulf, besides the actual damage inflicted upon the enemy, have induced the Governors of Alabama and Mississippi to call out the militia of their States under the belief that Selma and Mobile were both threatened. The operations in which General Dana is now engaged will probably terminate by the end of this month and General Granger, as soon as he has secured the large amount of naval stores captured by him, will withdraw his troops from Pascagoula. The militia of Alabama will probably return to their homes.

still more indisposed than they now are to respond to another call. If General Thomas should now be able to carry out the intentions of General Sherman in relation to Selma, I can be of material service by operations from the river and Gulf. I will communicate with General Thomas and be prepared to aid him as far as possible.

E. R. S. CANBY,
Major-General, Commanding.

MEMPHIS, TENN., *December 29, 1864—7 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLBERG,
Chief of Staff:

A few of my colored cavalry who were captured escaped from Corinth on Monday. They report my cavalry as having struck the road, only five miles south of Corinth, on Sunday. Five miles of road had been destroyed, and they were proceeding south, continuing their Yankee repairs to the road.

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General, Commanding.

MEMPHIS, *December 29, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

The Mobile and Ohio road is cut by my cavalry below Corinth. The cavalry is ordered to go to Cahaba, if possible.

N. J. T. DANA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Memphis, Tenn., December 29, 1864.

Ident. Col. C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Mil. Div. of West Mississippi:

I have just received a telegram from Collierville, stating that some of my colored cavalry soldiers who had been captured had escaped from Corinth on Monday morning, and they state that my cavalry had struck the Mobile and Ohio road only five miles below Corinth, had destroyed five miles of track, and were still at work. My orders were, in case of a heavy garrison being at Corinth, to give it a wide berth; and from the boldness exhibited by beginning their work so near that place, I infer that we have a gratifying prospect of success.

Respectfully,

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *December 30, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I think, from the tone of General Thomas' telegram of last night, that there is very little hope of his doing much further injury to Hood's army by pursuing it. You will perceive that he is disposed to postpone further operations till spring. This seems to me entirely wrong. I there-

here respectfully suggest whether Schofield and A. J. Smith, with, say, 20,000 men, should not be sent by water to Pascagoula to assist Canby in taking Mobile, and then using it as a base against Selma and Montgomery. This would prevent any of Hood's force from being sent against Sherman, and the capture of Selma would be almost as disastrous to the enemy as that of Atlanta. Thomas, with the remainder of his forces, could certainly maintain the line of the Tennessee to Chattanooga. If Schofield should be sent, the two departments (Tennessee and Kentucky) should be united under Thomas. If Thomas was as active as Sherman, I would say march directly from Decatur to Talladega, Montgomery, and Selma, lying upon the country, not anticipating Hood, should he move by Meridian. But I think Thomas entirely too shy to live on the country. He, however, will make the best possible defense. It is said that the rebels have a very large amount of supplies at Selma and Montgomery. If these can be captured and the railroads destroyed, then Western armies cannot get ammunition and ordnance stores. The reason for not suggesting that Schofield move from Vicksburg by Meridian is that the country is mostly stripped of supplies, and at this season very difficult of passage while that from Mobile is less swampy, and, moreover, the operating army could be supplied by steamers on the Alabama River.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., December 30, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army:

I have no idea of keeping idle troops in any place, but before taking troops away from Thomas it will be advisable to see whether Hood holds his army at Corinth. I do not think he will, but think he is much more likely to be thrown in front of Sherman; if so, it will be just where we want him to go. Let Thomas collect all troops not essential to hold his communications at Eastport, if he chooses a part of them at Tusculum, and be in readiness for their removal where they can be used.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, Tenn., December 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.

I have heard from General Wilson up to 3 p. m. of yesterday, and his information leads him to think the enemy will endeavor probably to reach Corinth. I have ordered the cavalry to move to Eastport, to operate against the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, should Hood really be at Corinth. Croxton, it is expected, would reach Eastport this afternoon, and I hope to hear in a few days that he has succeeded in destroying Bear Creek bridge. I have heard nothing of General Steedman since the morning of the 28th instant. Trains have commenced running on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad regularly to-day.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 30, 1861—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. ANDREW JOHNSON,
Military Governor of Tennessee, Nashville:

As the enemy is now entirely driven out of the State of Tennessee, would respectfully suggest that immediate measures be taken for the organization of the civil government of the State, as it is desirable, if possible, to place as large a force of the army beyond the borders of the State and as close to the enemy as we can, and I should be very happy to be assured that I could leave the State in the hands of the citizens. It should certainly now feel that the establishment of rebel authority in the State of Tennessee is hopeless, and their own interests should induce them to return to their allegiance to the United States, and restore peace to their State without any further quibbling.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 30, 1861.

Brigadier-General WEBSTER,
Chief of Staff, Nashville:

The major-general commanding directs me to inquire whether you have received his dispatch for Major-General Sherman.

Respectfully,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 30, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Send to Eastport 8,000 pairs of shoes, 16,000 pairs stockings, and a due proportion of other articles of clothing for the use of troops going there.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 30, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Send forage to Eastport for the whole of General Wilson's cavalry. There will be no necessity for sending forage to Huntaville, except for the teams of Twenty-third Corps to take en route to Chattanooga and a little to start the Fourth Corps teams.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

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RA., SW. VA., TENN., MISS., ALA., AND N. GA. (CHAP. LVII.)

SAVANNAH, December 30, 1864.

Major General Thomas:

The pontoon train of sixty boats will be ready to move tomorrow afternoon.

JAS. R. WILLETT,
Major, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, Tenn., December 30, 1864.

Major J. R. WILLETT,

Captain &c., Nashville.

Your report of the pontoons received. Keep them in Nashville until further orders.

W. M. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLEBURN, December 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General Whipple,

Chief of Staff.

Everything is ready for pontoons to start as soon as trestle bridge is ready.

A. G. TASSIN,
Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding Pontoon Train.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, Tenn., December 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. G. TASSIN,

Commanding Pontoon Train, &c.

Take up one bridge and start it for Elkton, and have party to take up the other as soon as trestle bridge is finished.

W. M. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

COLEBURN, December 30, 1864.

General W. D. Whipple,

Chief of Staff.

Started train with one bridge; will reach Pulaski to-morrow night, Elkton next day. I expect stores and material from Nashville to be here to-morrow; trestle bridge will be then completed.

A. G. TASSIN,
Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding Pontoon Train.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

Lexington, Ala., December 30, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General Whipple,

Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions just received from Major General Thomas, we will march from here for Huntsville and Athens to-morrow morning, starting at daylight and taking the most direct

notes. I will take all the artillery and wagons that I have with me along; by doing so I will avoid a long detour by the way of Pulaski, by which route we will have more dirt road and only fifteen miles of turpikie. I will promptly report the disposition I make of my troops in posting them at Huntsville, Athens, and vicinity. I have ordered my chief quartermaster, Colonel Hayes, to bring up, via Athens, all of my trains in the rear, and if any orders are necessary to assist him I would be much obliged to the commanding general if he will give such. It was necessary for me to leave part of my artillery at Pulaski and to use the horses of the same in helping those through now with my command. As soon as we arrive at our destination I will send back my chief of artillery with horses for this artillery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant General and Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Every particle of information, however derived, in regard to the condition of Hood's army attests the fact of its complete and perfect demoralization. I have made many inquiries of citizens living on the road we have followed in the pursuit, and have received universally the same answers, namely, that one half of the retreating troops are unarmed, and that everything like organization is gone. Two escaped prisoners came in yesterday, and their statements fully corroborate the information derived from other sources. One of these prisoners marched, or rather went with Lee's corps (for he says there was nothing like marching among them), to within two miles of the Tennessee River, where he escaped. He says that not more than one half of the corps was armed; that there was no organization at all in the corps; that he saw nothing like a company, regiment, or brigade, and that the men moved in squads, varying from six or eight to fifteen or twenty, and that these squads moved and halted at their own choice. He further states that from Pulaski to the point at which he escaped the rebels had nothing to eat but parched corn. The other escaped prisoner marched with Cheatham's corps, from Pulaski toward the Tennessee River, by the old military road. He says that out of the whole corps only about a regiment could be got to guard about 140 prisoners, and that the remainder of the corps marched in small squads, these squads moving as they chose. He says that in these squads he saw occasionally a musket or two to shoot cattle, &c., along the line of retreat. Both of these men speak of the destitute condition of the rebels in regard to clothing; they are without blankets, a great number without shoes, and all imperfectly clad. I feel confident that Hood has not taken across the Tennessee River more than half the men he brought across it; that not more than one-half of those taken out are armed; that he lost three-fourths of his artillery; and that, for rout, demoralization, even disintegration, the condition of his command is without a parallel in this war. I am also confident that his command cannot be reorganized for service for some weeks, perhaps not before spring. At present, so

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 30, 1861—1.30 p. m.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Army Corps for to-morrow, December 31, 1861:

The enemy having been driven over the Tennessee River, by direction of Major-General Thomas, the pursuit will be continued no longer. This corps will move to Huntsville and Athens, Ala., and will start on the march at 7 a. m. to-morrow, the 31st instant.—Brigadier-General Beatty's division will lead, followed by General Kimball's division, then General Elliott's. Each division will constitute a column by itself, preceded by all of its pioneers, formed into a brigade, who will repair roads and make crossings over the creeks, and followed by all the trains of the same, with one battery of artillery. One regiment will be detailed from each division to accompany its train and artillery, to assist them in moving. The supply train that arrived to-day will not be sent back to Pulaski, as directed this morning, but will accompany the troops in the march, each division taking its own section. The reserve battery will follow the trains of the rear division of the corps; the artillery ammunition will follow the reserve battery; and the hospital train will follow the artillery ammunition; until otherwise ordered, corps headquarters will follow the ammunition train of the leading division during the march. The leading division of the corps will be conducted by a staff officer from these headquarters.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 30, 1861—11.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL:

GENERAL: Three days' rations for your division are just arriving at this point; they must be issued to last five days. As soon as your train is unloaded send it to the rear, and direct the officer having charge of it to report to Surgeon Patterson, One hundred and twenty-fourth Ohio, at Pulaski, for the purpose of transporting sick and wounded from that point to the terminus of the railroad.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieut. Col., Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Elliott and Beatty.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 30, 1861—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL:

The general commanding directs that you send your ordnance officer to Pulaski at once, to turn over the ammunition now in your train at that place, and then to bring forward the empty train to your command, at Huntsville (via Athens) or Athens, whichever place it may be at. The object in turning over the ammunition is to lighten the train; more can be procured via railroad, if it is needed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. FULLERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Elliott and Beatty.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Leamington, Ala., December 30, 1864—8,30 a. m.

Brigadier-General BRADLEY,
Commanding Third Division:

The general commanding directs me to inform you that about six miles west of this place, on the Blue Water, there is a band of guerrillas, about 100 strong. The general is informed that they harbor near a mill owned by a Mr. Wise, who will give information as to the exact place. The party is said to have about 100 of the finest horses in the country. The general commanding also directs me to say that if you will send a regiment to disperse them and capture the horses he will give one horse to each mounted officer and one to each company, to be used as a pack animal.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 (JED. SHAFER,) *Aide-de-Camp.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Columbus, Tenn., December 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHITFIELD,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of the Cumberland, Pulaski, Tenn.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of December 29, conveying the orders of the major general commanding for me to move the Twenty-third Corps to Dalton, via Pulaski and Huntsville, or Fayetteville. The corps will be ready to move as soon as its trains return from Young Hall with supplies. I respectfully request the permission of the major general commanding to visit my department headquarters at Louisville, to attend to department business, while the corps is making this march. I can then join it by rail. Major General Couch will remain in command of the corps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

COLUMBUS, TENN., December 30, 1864.

Major Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Pulaski:

Seven of my new regiments have joined, and I have asked General Rousseau to send the other two which have been assigned. I have to make two consolidations and provide for the muster out of three regiments in a short time. Therefore, I need four more regiments at least to complete my organization. I would be glad if they could be assigned soon, so that I may get my corps in shape as soon as possible.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Major Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps, Columbia:

Your telegram of to-day making application for four additional regiments is received. So many regiments on duty in the District of Ten-

nesses have been mustered out of service within the last month that I shall be unable to give you any more for the present. Should additional regiments be sent to me, I will assign the four that arrive first to you.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 30, 1861.

Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield,
Columbia :

The One hundred and eightieth Ohio is at Elk River and Decherd, on the Chattanooga road. A regiment goes down to relieve it to-morrow. It already has orders to join you when relieved. The Twenty-eighth Michigan is here and will be sent as soon as I can get it off.

L. H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, 1. HUGGS, 3d BRIG., 1st DIV., 23d A. C.,
No. 1. (Camp near Columbia, Tenn., December 30, 1861.

I. The undersigned hereby assumes command of the Third Brigade, First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps.

II. The following officers are hereby designated to act as staff officers on the staff of the brigade commander. They will report for duty as soon as relieved from present duty, and they will be respected and obeyed accordingly: Lieut. and Adj. George W. Butterfield, Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. George Atkinson, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. Henry C. Lillibridge, regimental quartermaster One hundred and seventy-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, brigade quartermaster; Lieut. E. E. Hugheson, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, brigade commissary; Lieut. David M. Howe, One hundred and seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, aide-de-camp; Lieut. Thomas J. Wetherby, One hundred and seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, provost-marshal; F. W. Morrison, surgeon One hundred and seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, acting brigade surgeon.

M. T. THOMAS,
Colonel Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, Comdg. Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Two Miles West of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., December 30, 1861.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,
Commanding U. S. Forces in the Field :

The head of my column is four miles west of Lawrenceburg, and all trains will be closed up to this point tonight. Fourteen miles from here we strike the pike, which the good people of the county call a "dirt pike," no better, probably, than the road we have had to-day. We have been detained two hours to-day in crossing Shoal Creek (twice)—quite a stream. I will get forward as rapidly as possible. Regret the rub of to-day.

Very respectfully,

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, Tenn., December 30, 1861.

Maj. Gen. A. J. SMITH,

Commanding Detachment Army of the Tennessee;

GENERAL: Yours from your camp of last night has been received. If you learn that Hood has gone to Corinth, and when reinforced by the cavalry you think it advisable to attack him, the major-general commanding consents to your doing so.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Camp on the Padu., Tenn., December 30, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. McARTHUR,
Commanding First Division,

Brig. Gen. R. GARRARD,
Commanding Second Division,

Col. J. B. MOORE,
Commanding Third Division.

The major-general commanding directs that each of you have your divisions in readiness to make tomorrow morning, December 31. The order of march will be as follows: Third Division at 6 a. m.; First Division at 8 a. m.; Second Division at 10 a. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HUGHES,
Major and Lieutenant-Adjutant-General.

HIGGS, CAVALRY CORPS, ME. BR., OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Blue Water Creek, Miss., December 30, 1861, 10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD,

Commanding Fourth Corps.

Your dispatch of last night is just received. I have ordered Hammond's brigade up Blue Water, for the purpose of getting him nearer forage, and will tell him to look for the guerrillas. Captain Kneeland, of my staff, returned from Florence last night. The gun-boats had been there on Sunday and captured two batteries, but when the captain arrived they had gone back down the stream. The citizens reported that a party of troops from Memphis had torn up the railroad for fifteen miles, beginning seven miles beyond Tusculum and going toward Corinth. Couldn't learn who they were, cavalry or infantry, or where they had gone. The rebels had all disappeared from the opposite side of the river. They had made several strong lines of works at Bainbridge. Captain Kneeland could learn nothing of supplies.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 30, 1864.—1 p. m.

Major-General WILSON:

GENERAL: I have just received orders from General Thomas to move my command to Huntsville, Athens, and vicinity, where it will remain, to reorganize and prepare for the spring campaign. We will start at early daylight to-morrow morning and march via Athens, taking the best roads that we can find.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Bull's Mills, December 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that this command is ordered to move to Huntsville, Ala., and the general commanding desires to know by what means you propose crossing Elk River. He has sent a party to ascertain the condition of the river at Rogersville, and will inform you of the result early to-morrow.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Lexington, Ala., December 30, 1864.—6.30 p. m.

Major-General WILSON:

GENERAL: In reply to your note of this afternoon, I have the honor to inform you that I expect to cross Elk River at Buck Island Ford; that I expect to construct a bridge, by the use of empty wagons and light trestles, for infantry, provided the stream is not too deep to prevent fording for horses and wagons; if it is, it will be necessary to build a trestle bridge across. I will be glad to hear the result of your reconnaissance to Rogersville as early as you can communicate the same.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI
In the Field, December 30.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

the supply departments are active in filling these requisitions, the Cavalry Corps can take the field in the spring with 25,000 men fully armed, mounted, and equipped.

In order that the great destruction of cavalry horses may be hereafter prevented, I have ordered stabling prepared at cavalry depot at Edgefield for the shelter of at least 7,500 horses, and, in conjunction with Capt. John Green, special inspector of cavalry, have taken steps to have sent back all horses broken down by overwork and absence of proper forage before they are completely ruined. I hope, by the time active spring operations begin, to recuperate between 5,000 and 8,000 horses, and I believe that by these means 50 per cent. of the horses, which, under the old system [*vide*], will be returned to duty and perform better service than fresh horses. It has been the custom heretofore, as soon as a cavalry horse became reduced in flesh, sick, or sore backed, to abandon him or put him out to graze. Those that were abandoned, as well as those that were put out to graze, have generally found their way into the rebel service, or, at least, were entirely lost to ours. Humanity, as well as economy, requires that similar measures be taken, to restore the jaded and broken down horses, to those adopted for sick and wounded men.

The Quartermaster's Department has complained at various times of the enormous consumption of horses by our cavalry forces, and, in order to reduce the expenses incident thereto, it has been proposed to reduce the number of cavalry regiments. The remedy cannot, however, be applied in that way, without crippling very seriously the military operations. Horses have been killed rather by overwork and injudicious use of cavalry, than by any disposition on the part of the men and officers to neglect them. The cavalry force, instead of being too great, has always been too small to perform the work required of it; it should therefore be increased, rather than diminished. This may be done by completing its organizations, by concentrating it, and by instituting the proper measures for securing its efficiency, and by actually augmenting its numbers. It is utterly impossible to find horses capable of performing continuous labor, and it is just as impossible to find men who can bestow upon their horses every care and attention during campaigns as long as those which characterize the war in this country. The work must be decreased, or the numbers, as well as the capacity of men and horses, required to perform it must be increased; for only in one way or the other can the necessary time be obtained to give the men and horses the rest absolutely required and to enforce the proper rules of discipline. It is a fact, now generally admitted, that our cavalry has hitherto been overworked, generally deprived of the proper opportunity for drill and discipline, and frequently misused entirely; but, fortunately for the good of the public service, its proper use is now well understood, while the necessity for its complete organization in masses is becoming, as the war progresses, a matter of the first importance. With 25,000 men, properly organized, armed, and mounted, I hazard nothing in saying, more may be done by the army in the next campaign than ever before; the rebels can be thrown entirely on the defensive; their cavalry can be broken up, or driven behind their infantry for shelter; their railroads and other lines of communication can be cut; and, finally, their infantry can be attacked and harassed beyond endurance.

The performance of the Cavalry Corps during the recent campaign was such as to leave no doubt of its capacity. With complete organi-

zation and armament, which can only be obtained by the means herein indicated, it may be depended upon to perform any service that can justly be required of it.

Trusting that the suggestions may meet with the approval of the major-general commanding, and be carried into effect without delay,

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brig. Major-General.

HIGUES CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Blue Water, Ala., December 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland.

GENERAL: I send herewith, to Captain Carling, a communication in regard to the cavalry.* It is prepared at the instance of General Thomas, and for his action. I have abstained from going into the details of organization, they being sufficiently indicated by the measures already inaugurated. Captain Carling can explain my views upon any point not sufficiently elucidated in the letter referred to. I wish to say, however, the steps I urge in the final reorganization are not intended to be taken till all operations incidental to the completion of the present campaign are finished; but that you may understand our present condition, I send you the following report of effective strength: 270 officers; 5,561 enlisted men, mounted and effective for line of battle; 70 dismounted; 473 unserviceable horses. Of these, Croxson has 1,500; Hatch, 2,500; the balance nearly equally divided between Harrison and Hancock. Should the general determine to order us to a point on the Tennessee, please authorize Captain Carling to take the necessary measures to furnish supplies at the point indicated. Captain Kneeland, of my staff, returned last night from Florence. The gun-boats had been there, and were reported by the citizens to have captured two batteries. Captain Kneeland was informed by the citizens that a detachment of our troops from Memphis had torn up the railroad for fifteen miles, beginning seven miles beyond Tusculum and going toward Bear Creek. He could not learn who they were, whether they were cavalry or infantry, or where they had gone. The gun-boats had gone. The river was falling quite rapidly. The enemy had disappeared from the opposite bank. Colonel Spaulding reports that they made several elaborate lines of works covering their bridge at Hatcher's bridge. All the information I can gather still points to an intention, very generally expressed, to go to Corinth and winter there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brig. Major-General.

HIGUES CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Blue Water Creek, Ala., December 30, 1864—6 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

I shall march with my command, via Hageraville, to Huntsville, early to-morrow morning, in pursuance of the orders received this afternoon. Huntsville, in some respects, will be better than Eastport. Major

* See next, ante.

Beaumont, of my staff, will explain fully all the dispositions I have made in carrying out my orders. If you think Croxton's brigade sufficient force for Eastport, I will order McCook to Huntsville; otherwise, he may proceed to the former place as soon as he rests and rests. His chase after Lyon seems to have been a very hard one, and not very satisfactory. I propose to march via Rogersville, though the command will probably be delayed in crossing Elk River; from all I can learn, it is not now fordable. Where will army headquarters be?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Breret Major-General.

HUQRS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Blue Water Creek, Ala., December 30, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. T. CROXTON,

Commanding First Brigade, First Division;

GENERAL: You will continue your march to the vicinity of Eastport, subsisting your command as you can till supplies arrive there for you. After you arrive there you may organize an expedition for the destruction of the Bear Creek bridge and for obtaining precise information of the ultimate destination of Hood's army. General A. J. Smith's corps is marching for Eastport, also charged with the execution of certain duties, under instructions from General Thomas. You will co-operate with and act under orders of General Smith in any movement he may make to the south of the river. I expect orders for the whole corps to move in that direction to-morrow or next day; but in case I should move in the other direction, detailed instructions will be sent for your future guidance.

J. H. WILSON,

Breret Major-General.

HUQRS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Hull's Mills, December 30, 1864—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General CROXTON,

Commanding Brigade;

GENERAL: Upon arriving at Eastport you will select a permanent camp for your brigade, construct stabling for your horses and shelter for your men, and immediately institute measures for putting your brigade in condition for active operations next spring. The balance of your division will probably join you within the next two weeks, and will remain in the neighborhood of Eastport till next spring, unless relieved by some other division of the Cavalry Corps. Until General McCook arrives you will co-operate with General Smith, who is ordered to Eastport, but will take no orders from him except while operating against the enemy in campaigning south of the river. You will make your camp away from the infantry; immediately set to work and gather in all the forage within your reach; make requisition for horses, arms, and equipments necessary for your command. As soon as you have ascertained exactly your wants send a staff officer to the headquarters of the corps, at Huntsville, and authority will be given to him to obtain the necessary supplies and do such other things as may be necessary.

In the meantime, baggage and stores will be sent you from Nashville by steamer, your transportation train to join you via Lawrenceburg and Weymouthburg. Report to me as often as possible and such information as may be obtained from time to time of the movements and intentions of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Your dispatch of this date in relation to Spencer carbines received. Every effort will be made to obtain them for your entire command. The major general commanding bears a willing testimony to the fact that no portion of the command deserves them more than your gallant brigade.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HQHS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Wise's Mills, December 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General HATCH,

Commanding Fifth Division.

GENERAL: The brevet major general commanding desires you to send an intelligent officer, with ten men, to Hedgesville, to ascertain whether the Elk River is fordable or not. Direct him to report before daylight to-morrow morning. He must ascertain all particulars about the river and true, reliable information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HQHS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Wise's Mills, December 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General HAMMOND,

Commanding Brigade.

GENERAL: The brevet major general commanding desires you to move your command to the camp spoken of by you yesterday. A band of about 100 guerrillas are reported in the vicinity of Wise's Mill, well armed and equipped. He desires you to look after them. Mr. Wise will give you information concerning their whereabouts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,

Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HQHS. FIRST BRIG., SEVENTH DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,

Cowpen Creek, December 30, 1864.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAJOR: I have a good camp about six miles and a half from you, over a very good road, over which a man can enter the whole way. I have no report from the foragers yet, but as Colonel Coon's command was

encamped near here during some time I don't believe I will fare as well as I expected; but I will get enough, no doubt. I am preparing to bake bread at Dough's Mills, four miles from here, and at Cowpen Mills, two miles off. They will forage, grind, and bake corn-cakes, by Jettail, all night, and as long as the general leaves me here, until I get four days' rations of bread. I am on the Savannah road, sixty miles (good road) to Columbia, thirty-eight to Putaski, to Eastport forty-two—all good roads. I can travel a country that has not been foraged in, to either Waterloo or Eastport, sixteen miles and a half from Florence. Four miles farther on, along Shoud Creek, I can get more forage, the people say, but General Wilson said about six miles, and I stopped accordingly, and am in reach of both mills. I hear of small guerilla parties, and will watch for them. The band spoken of by General Wilson is somewhere up near Lexington. One foraging party has returned, and reports abundant forage only one mile and a half distant; also, a band of six in rebel uniform.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAMMOND,

Brevet Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I will send you some chickens to-morrow morning.

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Bull's Mills, December 30, 1861.

Brigadier-General HAMMOND,
Commanding Brigade.

GENERAL: The Cavalry Corps has been ordered to Huntsville. Move your command at daylight to-morrow morning, by the most direct route, to Rogersville, and take the Huntsville road.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. R. BEAUMONT,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 30, 1861.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE:

I greatly desire to be in Kentucky for a few days on business of vital importance to me. Can I go?

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Putaski, December 30, 1861.

J. Gen. L. H. ROUSSEAU,

Nashville:

You are authorized to go to Kentucky, as you desire.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., December 30, 1861.

Major-General ROUSSEAU,
Nashville, Tenn.

Will you please order the Twenty-eighth Michigan and One hundred and eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which have been assigned to my command, to report to me here without delay, and oblige,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., December 30, 1861.

Major-General ROUSSEAU,
Nashville, Tenn.

Please detain at Nashville, for the present, the Twenty-eighth Michigan, One hundred and eightieth Ohio, and any other regiments who may be under orders to join my command.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 30, 1861.

Brigadier-General WINTER.

General Schofield telegraphs from Columbia to have the Twenty-eighth Michigan sent to him at that place. Shall it be done?

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

December 30, 1861.

Major-General ROUSSEAU,
Nashville.

Has the Twenty-eighth Michigan got over the mountains? If so, send it to General Schofield.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 30, 1861.

Brigadier-General WINTER.

The Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth Missouri have been sent by rail as far as Spring Hill, but can get no farther. They have not a wagon or ambulance, and can get no assistance at Columbia, on account of scarcity of teams there. The quartermaster's department here cannot issue wagons before next Wednesday. The quartermaster and a detachment of each regiment have been detained here, to draw the teams and take them forward laden with supplies when issued. I will send the regiments forward without teams, if they could supply the selves after reaching Paducah. The Forty-fifth Missouri is now acting guard to the advance depot.

LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
No. 301. } *Nashville, Tenn., December 30, 1861.*

1. The Forty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry will proceed without delay by rail to Elk River and Decherd, on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad—four companies, under the command of the major, to take post at Elk River, and the remainder of the regiment to Decherd. Reports and returns will be made to Maj. Gen. R. H. Milroy, commanding that road.

By command of Major-General Rousseau:

R. H. POLK,

Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
No. 73. } *Tullahoma, December 30, 1861.*

1. The Forty-third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry will relieve all garrisons held by the One hundred and eightieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, beginning at Black house No. 17 (located south of Tullahoma), and running from thence south on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad. At Elk River bridge, the lieutenant colonel and four companies will be stationed, placing of this force twenty men and an officer in each black house there; the remainder of the four companies will occupy the fort. The headquarters and the reserve of the regiment will be at Decherd.

2. As soon as the One hundred and eightieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry is relieved by the Forty-third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Col. Willard Warner will proceed with his regiment to Pulaski, marching via Fayetteville. Colonel Warner will join the Twenty-third Army Corps (to which he has been assigned) at Pulaski, or wherever it may be.

By command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HQQR. DEFENSES NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA R. R.,
Tullahoma, December 30, 1861.

Col. WILLARD WARNER,
180th Ohio Volunteer Infantry:

COLONEL: The Forty-third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry has been ordered to relieve your regiment at Decherd and all other points. As soon as this has been done you will proceed with your command to Pulaski, marching via Fayetteville. You will take five days' rations, if practicable, carrying three days' in haversacks. When you reach Pulaski you will report to the commanding officer of the Twenty-third Army Corps, to which you have been assigned. If the Twenty-third Corps is not there, you will proceed to join it wherever it may be. You will take the mounted men of the two companies of the Fifth Tennessee Cavalry, under Captain Couch, and order them to march one day in

Not promulgated. Regiment received orders from Major-General Schofield.

advance of you, that they may give you all necessary information of the enemy, if there is any in your line of march, and of the whereabouts of the Federal forces. When you get in safe distance of our forces you will order Captain Couch to return to Decherd and report to the commanding officer there for duty.

My command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECATUR, December 30, 1864.

(Received 31st.)

Major-General THOMAS:

GENERAL: Colonel Polly (1), commanding Thirtieth Indiana Cavalry, reports that he has captured two pieces of artillery and a few prisoners. The prisoners all report that Hood has crossed at Bain bridge, and I am pushing forward as rapidly as possible.

JAS. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

COURTLAND, [December] 30, 1864.

(Received January 1, 1865.)

Major-General THOMAS:

I have the honor to report that the advance of my command arrived at this place last night, 29th instant. I learned that the enemy have reached Tusculum en route to Corinth; that General Hood left Tusculum Tuesday morning; that Forrest has been at Tusculum several days, but is supposed to be moving toward Corinth. I send for orders hearing a report that the enemy is over the Tennessee River. My whole command is now here, except the cavalry, which advanced to Town Creek. I have captured four commissioned officers and about — men since I left Decatur. Now that General Sherman has taken Savannah, will not Wheeler return toward Chattanooga?

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant.

JAS. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,

Leighton, Thirteen Miles from Courtland,

December 30, 1864—2 p. m.

General STEEDMAN:

GENERAL: I am here feeding preparatory to a night expedition after Hood's pontoon train, which crossed this road yesterday, and started from La Grange (four miles south of here) this morning at daylight. I can catch it easily before morning, but it is reported here that Jackson's division (Forrest's command) of cavalry has been ordered back here. Please, therefore, have the infantry come on and camp here (a Leighton) to-night, so that I can securely make this expedition. There is forage within three-quarters of a mile from here, and it being the cross-road it is the best position for a camp. The march from your last camp will be only seventeen miles and a half. There are a few hundred cavalry now in my front toward Tusculum; I do not know

whether this is Jackson's or not. Most of Roddey's men scattered off to the mountains as we came along here. The rear of Hood's army left Tusculum at 1 p. m. yesterday. Railroad is in operation to within four miles of Tusculum. Reliable report that our cavalry has destroyed the Mobile and Ohio Railroad for twenty miles, from Baldwin south. Heavy cannonading heard about Eastport yesterday from 2 p. m. till midnight.

Yours,

W. M. J. PALMER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH,
Courtland, Ala., December 30, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. W. J. PALMER,
Commanding Cavalry:

COLONEL: Your dispatch just received. The infantry, if it should move now, could not reach Leighton before 2 a. m. to-morrow. You will, therefore, have to exercise your own judgment as to whether you can safely make the expedition without support from the infantry. It is fair to suppose that the pontoon train has a guard at least equal to your own force. The service of your command will be needed to scout in the direction of the river and Tusculum. I do not wish you to break down your horses, but leave you free to make the expedition, if you think you can do it with perfect safety. Send me a commissioned officer with twenty-five of your men for courier duty. Please inform me whether you pursue the train or not.

By command of Major-General Steedman:

S. B. MOE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., *December 30, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE STONEMAN,
Nashville, Tenn.:

I have received your two dispatches of the 29th, and am more than satisfied with your explanation as well as with the result of your late expedition. The order of the War Department relieving you from the command to which you were assigned has been revoked, and I desire you to return to Louisville and continue a general supervision of the affairs of the department, at least until you can obtain a more desirable command.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Frankfort, December 30, 1864.

Gen. B. H. HONSON,
Lexington, Ky.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the forces under my command operating on the Louisville and Frankfort Railroad, captured, on

the names of Smith, Johns, and Maddox, both notorious characters. Captain Cockrell reports he sent them to the rear, and they attempted to escape from the guard, were fired upon, and killed. Captain Seary reports that Jesse has crossed the Kentucky River, and is now in Owen County. I respectfully request that the battalion of colored cavalry now near Latrange be ordered to Owen County in pursuit of Jesse, as the forces I have along the railroad are sufficient for its protection.

Very respectfully,

D. W. LINDSEY,
Inspector and Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, / HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
No. 21. A MILITARY DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY,
Lexington, Ky., December 30, 1864.

In obedience to Special Orders, No. 103, headquarters Military District of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky., December 29, 1864, I hereby assume command of First Division, Military District of Kentucky. The following officers are announced as my personal staff: Capt. George C. Lott, additional aide de camp; Lieut. W. Lee Osborn, Eleventh Michigan Cavalry, aide de camp.

E. H. HOBSON,
Regimental General, Commanding.

NEW ORLEANS, December 30, 1864.
(Via Cairo, January 7, 1865.)

Major Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

If you contemplate any operations in the direction of Selma, I may be of service by demonstrations from some point on the Gulf. I can spare for this purpose from 15,000 to 20,000 men. Let me know in what way I can aid your operations and I will gladly employ all the force that I can gather up. Your successes have given us great gratification.

E. R. R. CANBY,
Major General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, December 31, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major General THOMAS,
Pulaski, Tenn.:

General A. J. Smith was nominated, confirmed, and commissioned major-general of volunteers, and accepted his commission the 20th of June. He is full major-general, and not merely brevet. Do you desire any other promotion for him?

R. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 31, 1864—7 p. m.

Hon. R. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of 10.15 this a. m. received. I respectfully recommend that General A. J. Smith be brevetted one grade in the regular service for his gallantry and good conduct in battle, before Nashville, on the

5th and 16th instant; also, General T. J. Wood, on the same dates, who as equally conspicuous. I would also recommend Generals Schofield and Stanley be brevetted one grade in the regular service, for gallantry and good conduct at the battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, December 31, 1864—11:30 a. m.
(Via Nashville, Tenn.)

Major-General THOMAS:

General Grant directs that all of your available forces, not essential to hold your communications, be collected on the Tennessee River, say at Eastport and Tusculum, and be made ready for such movements as may be ordered. It is supposed that a portion of the troops in Louisville and other parts of Kentucky and Tennessee can now be availed of for active operations elsewhere. They should be made ready for that purpose. General Dodge wishes you to return to Saint Louis the Thirty-fourth Missouri Infantry, now at Louisville, so that he may complete its organization. Please give us the earliest possible notice of Hood's line of retreat, so that orders may be given for a continuance of the campaign. General Grant does not intend that your army shall go into winter quarters; it must be ready for active operations in the field.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, December 31, 1864—3:30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Pulaski, Tenn.:

General Dana telegraphs from Memphis on the 29th that his cavalry struck the railroad on the 28th, five miles south of Corinth, and were destroying it as they went south. It is, therefore, important that your cavalry keep that of Forrest well employed, so that it will not be able to molest that destroying the railroad in Mississippi.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., December 31, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Your telegrams of 11:30 a. m. and 3:30 p. m. this day are received. I am watching Hood closely, to determine his line of retreat, of which I will inform you as soon as ascertained. I have ordered the cavalry to Eastport, and also General A. J. Smith's command. The Fourth Army Corps has been ordered to Huntsville, Ala., as that place will be convenient to furnish the troops with supplies to refill. I had ordered the Twenty-third Army Corps to Dalton, but countermanded the order yesterday, upon a report that Hood was moving toward Corinth. I will now order the Twenty-third Corps to Eastport. I have received a communication from General Wilson to-day, dated the 29th instant, in which he represents his cavalry as very much fatigued out and in need of rest, and asks that he may be allowed to assemble it at or near Eastport sufficiently

long to reorganize and recuperate, shoe up his horses, and organize his trains. His losses in horses have been very heavy since we left Nashville, owing principally to the intolerably bad weather, the almost impossible condition of the country, caused by constant and heavy rains and snow, and the great scarcity of forage along the route over which we pursued the enemy. The infantry, also, is very much exhausted, having been constantly on campaign duty since early last spring. To continue the campaign without any rest, I fear, will cost us very heavy losses from disease and exhaustion. The troops, however, will be assembled at Eastport and Huntsville as soon as possible, where we will await orders. I must say, however, in justice to all the commands, that they have not yet had sufficient time to get supplied with the transportation which General Sherman had, necessarily, to take from them to supply himself with the requisite amount for his march. I had already taken steps, before receiving your telegram of to-day, to reit the troops under my command as soon as possible, so as to commence the campaign again at the earliest possible moment, and I do believe that it is much the best policy to get well prepared before starting on an important campaign.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, December 31, 1861—12 m.

Admiral S. P. LEE,
Flagship *Fury*, Eastport:

Your dispatch of 20th just received. Do you mean the height at Eastport, or on the river above, and how far above? Is there any indication that the enemy is in force or moving toward Corinth?

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers.

NASHVILLE, December 31, 1861.

Capt. R. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I received General Thomas' dispatch for General Sherman. Officers will leave for Savannah to-morrow morning. Please inform me as to the situation of affairs at front.

J. H. WEBSTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, December 31, 1861—8 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. H. WEBSTER,
Chief of Staff, Nashville, Tenn.:

Your telegram of this date is received. Reports would indicate that Hood will endeavor to halt his retreating army at Corinth, but he cannot do this for any length of time, as General Dana has destroyed the Mobile and Ohio Railroad south from Corinth for some distance. General Thomas' army is being concentrated at Huntsville and Eastport preparatory to further operations.

Respectfully,

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 31, 1864.

General W. D. WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

The quartermaster's gun boat *Newsboy* just arrived from Eastport. The commander says Admiral Lee reports that he had effectually cleaned out the rebels at Florence, and that he had destroyed the pontoon bridge across the river at that point; and in verification of Admiral Lee's report the commander of the *Newsboy* says he met with numerous pieces of a pontoon bridge floating in the Tennessee between Duck River and Eastport. A detailed report to the general by special messenger.

J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

NASHVILLE, December 31, 1864.

Capt. R. H. HAMBLY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Please tell me from time to time, as far as may be proper, the situation of our and Hood's army. It may help me in my operations.

J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Nashville, Tennessee, 31, 1864. P. M.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,

Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.

Your telegram of this date is received. Reports would indicate that Hood will attempt to halt his retreating army at Knoxville, but there seems hardly be possible for any length of time, as General Davis has broken the Mobile and Ohio Railroad by demolishing a section East point. You can be prepared to supply the cavalry regiment, and also General A. J. Smith's, at Eastport, with, perhaps, the Twenty-third Army Corps. The Fourth Army Corps, General Wood, will, for the present, be posted at Huntsville. Happy New Year.

Respectfully,

R. H. HAMBLY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }

No. 477. }

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

AND EAST RIVER OF THE M.

Washington, December 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. M. Crocker, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person, without delay, to the commanding general Army of the Cumberland for assignment to duty.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

R. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

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KY., SW. VA., TENN., MISS., ALA., AND N. GA. (Contd.)

HIDDEG, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
On the Road, December 31, 1861.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that the Elk River is fordable
at the crossing near Rogersville.
Respectfully,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
COLUMBIA, Ala., December 31, 1861—2:45 p. m.

Lieutenant Colonel HAYES,
Chief Quartermaster, Fourth Army Corps.

The general commanding desires that you send all of the trains and
property of the corps, save the artillery, to Athens and Huntsville.
The commanding officer at Athens will give you a note stating the par-
ticular disposition to be made of the trains. Headquarters will be at
Huntsville. You will move directly from Paducah to Athens.
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. FLETCHER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, December 31, 1861.

Brigadier General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff.

Is not the route via Lawning and Shelbyville better than that vi
Paducah and Fayetteville? The road from this place to Shelbyville
all pike, except ten miles.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GENERAL THOMAS' HEADQUARTERS,
December 31, 1861.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Columbia.

Do not start from Columbia until further orders. Circumstances
may render it necessary for the Twenty-third Corps (to move) in another
direction.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, December 31, 1861.

Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

Your dispatch ordering the movement of Twenty-third Corps to be
delayed, and that of General Thomas in relation to the four additional
regiments, are received.

J. M. SCHOFIELD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Columbia, Tenn., December 31, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. H. SIMPSON,

Chief Engineer, Armies of the West, Cincinnati, Ohio:

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th instant, asking for the names of fifteen officers to be used for the designation of forts in Kentucky. In reply, the major-general commanding the department directs me to furnish you the names of the following officers, belonging to this Army of the Ohio, who have been killed, or died from the effects of wounds received in battle:

Capt. Archibald H. Eagle, aide-de-camp on the staff of Major-General Schofield and captain Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, killed in the battle of Resaca, Ga., May 14, 1864. Capt. E. D. Saunders, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, killed in action in front of Dallas, Ga., June 2, 1864. Lieut. Col. George R. Elstner, Fiftieth Ohio Infantry, killed in action near Utoy Creek, Ga., August 8, 1864. Lieut. Col. Mervin Clark, One hundred and eighty-third Ohio Infantry, killed in the battle of Franklin, Tenn., November 30, 1864. Capt. M. C. Horton, One hundred and fourth Ohio Infantry, killed in action in front of Dallas, Ga., May 28, 1864. Capt. A. J. Southworth, One hundred and fourth Ohio Infantry, killed in action in front of Atlanta, Ga., August 16, 1864. Capt. George W. Hill, Twelfth Kentucky Infantry, killed in action in front of Atlanta, Ga., August 6, 1864. Capt. William Bishop, One hundredth Ohio Infantry, mortally wounded in action in front of Dallas, Ga., May 28, 1864. Capt. J. T. Philpot, One hundred and third Ohio Infantry, killed in the battle of Resaca, Ga., May 14, 1864. Capt. W. W. Hutchinson, One hundred and third Ohio Infantry, killed in the battle of Resaca, Ga., May 14, 1864. Capt. R. J. Showers, Eighthth Indiana Infantry, killed in the battle of Resaca, Ga., May 14, 1864. Capt. Edgar Camp, One hundred and seventh Illinois Infantry, killed in action at Lost Mountain, Ga., June 10, 1864. Capt. G. A. Gallup, Thirtieth Kentucky Infantry, killed in action near Lovejoy's Station, Ga., September 1, 1864. Second Lieut. Julius E. Karnasch, Thirty-fifth Missouri Infantry, topographical engineer on the staff of Major-General Schofield, killed in action near Atlanta, Ga., August 4, 1864. First Lieut. James Coughlan, Twenty-fourth Kentucky Infantry, aide-de-camp on the staff of Major-General Schofield, killed in the battle of Franklin, Tenn., November 30, 1864.

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., December 31, 1864.

Colonel WHEELER, *Twenty-eighth Michigan, Nashville, Tenn.:*

Remain with your regiment in Nashville until further orders, which will be sent you in a few days.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Major-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., December 31, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER 180TH OHIO VOLUNTEERS,

Decherd, Tenn.:

Remain with your regiment at Decherd until further orders. You will be able to join the Twenty-third Corps near that place.

J. M. SCHOFIELD.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, December 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. MCARTHUR,
Commanding First Division.

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward with your command to-morrow morning, January 1, 1865, at 11 a. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. ROUGH,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HOOVER, CANTLEY CREEK, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Roddy's Mills, Tenn., December 31, 1864—6 a. m.
 Brigadier General Whittier,
Chief of Staff.

An intelligent and apparently faithful deserter from Roddey's command says Roddey was driven out of Hoover Tuesday morning stampeded and scattered from Chattanooga the next day, and was defeated at a point on the railroad six miles west of Town Creek. The rebels supposed the force after them to be under the command of Granger, and to consist of cavalry and infantry, not less than 15,000. They are badly scared and think they are going up. Day before yesterday heavy rain-bowling was heard in the direction of Eastport between 2 p. m. and dark. The deserter reports that the rear guard of Hood's command left Chattanooga day before yesterday at noon, the advance having left on Tuesday morning. The gun boats were within a mile of the rebel bridge at Hardscrabble, and the people say could have reached it without trouble.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Secret Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Palmdale, Tenn., December 31, 1864.

Major Gen. J. H. WILSON,
*Comdg. Cavalry Corps, Mil. Div. of the Mississippi,
 In the Field, Blue Water, Ala.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communications of yesterday, by the hands of Captain Carling. The following is a copy of communication already sent you:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Palmdale, Tenn., December 30, 1864.

Brig. Major-General Wilson,
Commanding Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi.

Sir: Your dispatch dated Blue Water Creek, Ala., December 29, 3 p. m., is received. The major-general commanding modifies his previous order for your command, and directs that you move with it to Eastport, on the Tennessee River, to reorganize. At this point you will find all the supplies you may need.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY M. GIRT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The major-general commanding does not particularly desire that you should locate your camp exactly at Eastport, or on the south side of the river, but if you can find a better camp on this side, you are at liberty to locate it there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

HQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Waterloo, Ala., December 31, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. J. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: The communications of December 30, 5.30 a. m. and 4 p. m., from the major-general commanding, are just received. I reached this place at dark last night. The transports had been lying here for four days, with ten days' rations and forage for 10,000 cavalry, also medical supplies. Hood's army reached Cherokees last night, and Forrest took the train for Corinth yesterday, at that point, shipping cavalry by rail. I shall immediately begin my winter campaign against this ragged, lawless brigade, and hope to turn it out in good shape in the spring.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. CRONTON,
Brigadier General of Volunteers.

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY., December 31, 1864.

Brig. Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON:

I arrived here with my division to-day.

ELI LONG,
Brigadier General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Hull's Mills, December 31, 1864—2 a. m.

Brigadier-General HATCH,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to move your command, via Rogersville, to Huntsville, by the most direct practicable route. Upon arriving in the vicinity of Huntsville your command will be reported to these headquarters, which will be established in Huntsville. He desires you to move at daylight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Hull's Mills, Tenn., December 31, 1864—2 a. m.

Col. T. J. HARRISON,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: The general commanding desires you to move your command at daylight, via Rogersville, to Huntsville, Ala., by the most

direct practicable route. It will be reported, upon arriving at Huntsville, to these headquarters, which will be established in that place. All your transportation, &c., will join you at Huntsville.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. J. ALEXANDER,
Lieutenant Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 31, 1861.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. MILLER,

Nashville.

Send all officers and men who have reported to you since General Sherman left who belong to General Sherman's army to Savannah, without regard to term of service yet remaining. We have not the means of determining when their terms of service expire, and, under existing orders of War Department, cannot muster them out. Send, also, the reserve artillery of Army of the Tennessee to Savannah.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, December 31, 1861.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Chief of Staff.

Your dispatch relating to officers and men of General Sherman's command just received. There are thousands of men belonging to that army whose term of service has expired. Shall we send such men to the chief mustering officer of the State from whence they came? The detachments of your command, with baggage, have are in camp together, and I am sending forward all men from detachments fit for duty. Will you have the baggage forwarded soon?

JOHN F. MILLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 31, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. F. MILLER,

Nashville.

Send all detachments for General Smith's command by steamer to Eastport.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, December 31, 1861.

Brig. Gen. J. F. MILLER,

Nashville.

Hold the 200 of Merrill's Horse at Nashville until the rest of the regiment arrives, then send it overland to Eastport.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

PECIAL ORDERS, { HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE,
No. 302. } Nashville, Tenn., December 31, 1864.

The Forty-second Missouri Volunteer Infantry will proceed without delay, by rail, as soon as transportation can be furnished, to Tullahoma, the commanding officer reporting, upon his arrival there, to Maj. R. H. Milroy.

By command of Major-General Rousseau:

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA R. R.,
Tullahoma, December 31, 1864.

Maj. R. H. POLK,
Assistant Adjutant General:

MAJOR: While at Murfreesborough I ordered Major Cobb, of the Twelfth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, to proceed to Nashville and collect the members of his regiment there and bring them to the regiment at this place. These were men who had been home on furlough, and were stopped on their return at Nashville by the presence of the rebel army. Major Cobb returned to this post today, but without the men that he was ordered to bring. He brought a letter addressed to me from Brig. Gen. Joseph E. Knipe, stating that the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry had been assigned to his division, and requesting me to send this regiment to Nashville immediately. I cannot comply with his request from General Knipe, for he has no right to make such a demand upon me. Furthermore, I have no official knowledge whatever of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry having been assigned to the Seventh Division, Cavalry Corps, and I cannot obey any order taking this regiment from me, unless it passes through Headquarters District of Tennessee. I therefore request that the general commanding order the detachment of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry now at Nashville to join the regiment here without delay.

R. H. MILROY
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF MURFREESBOROUGH,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., December 31, 1864.

Maj. J. R. WILLETT,
First U. S. Veteran Volunteer Engineers:

The general commanding directs me to say, in answer to your inquiry in regard to rebuilding block-houses, through Lieutenant Conger, that the small detachment of the One hundred and fifteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, detailed for the different stations on the railroad, cannot guard the bridges, patrol the road, and at the same time build block-houses. By furnishing all the negroes that could be pressed (about forty) to the officer commanding Block-house No. 6, that was destroyed by Wheeler, it was nearly completed in three months. They should be built by the Engineer Corps. I cannot furnish men to build block-houses.

I am, major, respectfully, &c.,

H. H. SHEETS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Leighton, December 31, 1864. 3 a. m.

Major MORR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I did not receive your reply till after 10 p. m. My men are now saddling up to go after the train. We shall take a trail which will put us on the Russellville road beyond La Grange, so that we shall slip between the two bodies of the enemy in our front—one on the Tusculum road and the other on the Mount Hope or La Grange road. The officer and twenty men required by you have been detailed, and will be directed to remain here till daybreak, picketing the roads and keeping up the fire at our camp. They will then return to the other side of Town Creek, and await your arrival. I hope the infantry will make an early start, and be sure to come as far as Leighton before camping, as otherwise I might have difficulty in getting the train back, even if it were captured. I hope to get it unimpaired; and in that event I presume the importance of the capture would be greater than otherwise, as it would enable us to lay the bridge at Florence or below, and permit General Thomas' cavalry, or the whole of his forces, to cross. The roads are so bad beyond Tusculum that Hood's wagon train will make very slow progress to Corinth, and a large cavalry force on this side of the river might still do them considerable damage. There is no enemy at Bainbridge or Florence, and there was none yesterday p. m. at Tusculum. Roddey's train of thirty wagons, with the two 30 pounders, left here yesterday morning at daylight for Cone Creek Station, four miles beyond Tusculum, which is the railroad terminus, and where I suppose they will put the heavy cannon on the cars, as Hood sent to Roddey for them. Two regiments of Jackson's division of cavalry (Forrest) went past here, from Bainbridge to Mount Hope, on Wednesday, to feed, &c. I presume this is a portion of the guard for the pontoons. The latter are ordered to Columbus, Miss., and if we find there is no danger of a force being sent from Forrest to intercept us, we shall probably follow till we reach the train. When the infantry reaches here, this p. m., please have one regiment go on to the top of the ridge at La Grange, four miles, so as to prevent Jackson's two regiments from coming in my rear, if they are still out on the Mount Hope road. There is not the slightest probability of any infantry of Hood's being sent back, and I therefore expect and hope that the infantry will march on to morrow to Tusculum, to which point the pontoon train might be brought (a distance of sixteen miles from Russellville). I shall endeavor to ascertain, by scouts across from Russellville, whether or not you are there. Will you please have my wagons and supplies brought from the transports when yours are.

Yours, respectfully,

WM. J. PALMER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., December 31, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your telegram of 10.50 of 29th received at 12 m. Quartermaster immediately set to work to make preparations to receive stores. Fortifications will be repaired as fast as the strength of the limited garrison will permit. Commanding officer at L. telegraphs that the bridge at Paint Rock was burned by 600 rebel cavalry; a portion of the guard at the bridge reports this fact. Am preparing a train, and will move

down there myself at once with a force. My force for the defense of the road and Decatur is 1,113 infantry and 700 cavalry, miserably mounted. Colonel Prosser, with all that could be of service in the field, has gone with General Steedman, by your order. All the block-houses this side of Paint Rock have been destroyed, and there are no defenses for the small garrisons. I had eighty men and one piece of artillery at Paint Rock, and yesterday ordered them to be prepared for an attack.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Tombago, Tenn., December 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,

Decatur, Ala.

Has Colonel Merrill sent down a pontoon train from Chattanooga and laid a bridge at Decatur and? What news have you from General Steedman?

WM. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

Huntsville, December 31, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS:

As I expected, the force at Paint Rock was not half of what it was reported to be. Only about two-thirds of the bridge was burned. The piece of artillery was not taken. I have taken every means to secure it at once. Sent 150 men from this point down the road. I have heard nothing from General Steedman. Your gun boats went down nearly to the mouth of Elk River, the Wheelabrator passing over the first rapid with Captain Forrest. They saw a few strange boats and some pickets on the north side of the river. Colonel Merrill, of the pontoon bridge, was reported yesterday coming down a river, but had not arrived last evening. I will leave in the morning for Decatur, and superintend everything myself. If the general has chosen his speaker, I would be glad if he would send me some reinforcements, to get out the road and assist in building up forts and store houses—1,000 infantry for block houses and Decatur and 400 cavalry to look after guerrillas.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTHERN ALABAMA,
Huntsville, Ala., December 31, 1864.

Major-General THOMAS,

Comdg. Department of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.:

GENERAL: I telegraphed the general commanding to-day that the bridge at Paint Rock had been burned, the party guarding it captured or dispersed, and that this had been done by 600 cavalry. I have since ascertained that the cavalry was commanded by Mead and Johnson. If this be so, they have not half the force reported. They are, however, capable of doing a great deal of damage, as I have not cavalry with which to pursue or hunt him up. General Steedman has taken Colonel Prosser with all his cavalry, except 200 poorly mounted, a

it on that day he met the steamer Poland below Hickman, which sort of having been fired on at that place. He landed there and found that twelve men were pillaging the town, and that they had no citizens "corralled" in a vacant lot. He landed thirty men, and three guerrillas left on their approach; soon after four cavalymen rode to the top of the hill, were fired on by his picket, and retreated by the resden road. A previous report from Lieutenant-Commander Mitchell states that citizens have informed him that a band of bushwhackers are camped in the swamp below Hickman; the men engaged in pillaging the town probably belonged to this gang. I request that you will take means to prevent the repetition of these raids on Hickman and to break up the guerrilla bands that infest its neighborhood. Naval co-operation will always be cordially extended when required.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, yours,
S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, December 31, 1861—S. p. m.

Maj. Gen. N. J. DANA,
Memphis:

Your telegram of 29th instant is received. I will endeavor to attract as much of Forrest's cavalry toward this army as possible, so as to relieve your force now destroying the Mobile and Ohio Railroad south.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

Abstract from return of the Department of the Cumberland, Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of December, 1861.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present and absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|---|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| | Officers. | Men. | | | Heavy. | Light. |
| General headquarters..... | 20 | | 20 | 28 | | 44 |
| Fourth Army Corps (Wool)..... | 613 | 12,303 | 12,915 | 28,084 | 46 | 111 |
| District of Tennessee (Renaudin)..... | 557 | 13,480 | 14,037 | 23,016 | 18 | 60 |
| District of the Rioval (Sterndman)..... | 244 | 7,575 | 7,819 | 12,777 | 18 | 12 |
| Artillery Reserve (Smith)..... | 6 | 430 | 436 | 814 | | |
| Reserve Brigade (Lo Favore)..... | 30 | 650 | 680 | 1,818 | | |
| Unassigned Infantry..... | 30 | 930 | 960 | 1,851 | 4 | 6 |
| Unassigned Artillery..... | 12 | 60 | 72 | 101 | | |
| Signal Corps (Hollister)..... | 14 | 304 | 318 | 944 | | |
| Veteran Reserve Corps (Cahill)..... | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 1,538 | 30,304 | 31,842 | 70,284 | 68 | 271 |

CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.—UNION.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL BEATTY.

First Brigade.

Col. ABEL D. STREIGHT.

89th Illinois, Lieut. Col. William D. Williams.
51st Indiana, Capt. David W. Hamilton.
8th Kansas, Lieut. Col. John Conover.
15th Ohio, Col. Frank Askow.
49th Ohio, Capt. Joseph R. Bartlett.

Second Brigade.

Col. HENRY K. McCONNELL.

59th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Clayton Hale.
41st Ohio, Lieut. Col. Robert L. Kimberly.
71st Ohio, Capt. John W. Moody.
93d Ohio, Lieut. Col. Daniel Bowman.
124th Ohio, Lieut. Col. James Pickands.

Third Brigade.

Col. FREDERICK KNEFLER.

79th Indiana, Lieut. Col. George W. Parker.
86th Indiana, Col. George F. Dick.
13th Ohio (four companies), Maj. Joseph T. Snider.
19th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Henry G. Stratton.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Maj. WILBUR P. GOODSPEED.

Indiana Light, 25th Battery, Capt. Frederick C. Sturm.
Kentucky Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Theodore S. Thomasson.
1st Michigan Light, Battery E, Capt. Peter De Vries.
1st Ohio Light, Battery G, Capt. Alexander Marshall.
Ohio Light, 8th Battery, Lieut. Aaron P. Baldwin.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery B, Capt. Jacob Ziegler.
4th United States, Battery M, Lieut. Samuel Canby.

DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE.

Maj. Gen. LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU.

FOURTH DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM P. LYON.

73d Indiana, Lieut. Col. Alfred B. Wade.
18th Michigan, Maj. Edwin M. Hulburd.
103d Ohio, Capt. William C. Scott.
13th Wisconsin, Capt. Edgar W. Blake.

Second Brigade.

Col. EDWIN C. MASON.

142d Indiana, Col. John M. Comparet.
45th New York, Lieut. Col. Adolphus Dobke.
176th Ohio, Lieut. Col. William B. Nesbitt.
179th Ohio, Col. Harley H. Sage.
182d Ohio, Col. Lewis Butler.

POST TOWN CO., NASHVILLE, TENN.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. MILLER.

28th Michigan, Col. William W. Wheeler.
 43d Ohio, Col. John R. Hunt.
 78th Pennsylvania, Capt. Henry W. Torbett.
 17th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. William R. Shatter.
 41th Wisconsin (detachment), 1 Lieut. Col. Oliver C. Russell.
 45th Wisconsin (detachment), 1 Lieut. Col. Oliver C. Russell.
 Illinois Light Artillery, Battery A, Lieut. Lyman A. White.
 Indiana Light Artillery, 2d Battery, 1 Capt. James S. Wheeler.
 Indiana Light Artillery, 10th Battery, 1 Capt. Benjamin F. Johnson.
 Indiana Light Artillery, 12th Battery, 1 Capt. James E. White.
 Indiana Light Artillery, 21st Battery, 1 Capt. Abram P. Andrews.
 Indiana Light Artillery, 24th Battery, 1 Lieut. William Allen.
 Kansas Light Artillery, 1st Battery, 1 Capt. Marcus D. Tenney.
 1st Michigan Light Artillery, Battery F, 1 Capt. Byron D. Paddock.
 1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A, 1 Capt. Charles W. Seavill.
 1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery B, 1 Lieut. Frank H. Rockard.
 Ohio Light Artillery, 29th Battery, 1 Capt. William Backus.
 1st Tennessee Light Artillery, Battery C, 1 Lieut. Valentine Meyers.
 1st Tennessee Light Artillery, Battery D, 1 Capt. Samuel D. Lehmert.
 2d U. S. Colored Light Artillery, Battery A, 1 Lieut. Jerry Lawlin.

RECKARD, ALA.

1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery F, Capt. William H. Drann.

CLADWELL, TENN.

Col. ARTHUR A. SMITH.

86th Illinois (eight companies), Maj. William G. Bond.
 2d Illinois Light Artillery, Battery H, Capt. Thomas C. Whittemore.

FORT JACKSON, TENN.

Lieut. Col. LEONARD C. BISHOP.

86th Illinois (two companies), Capt. James Moore.
 2d Illinois Light Artillery, Battery C, Capt. James P. Flood.

U. S. FORT ON JACKSON AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD.

Col. JAMES HERRICKS.

11th Minnesota, Lieut. Col. John Ball.
 2d Tennessee Mounted Infantry, Col. John Murdick.
 40th U. S. Colored Troops (five companies), Lieut. Col. Arthur F. Reed.
 101st U. S. Colored Troops, Company F, Lieut. Stephen H. Eno.
 Indiana Light Artillery, 15th Battery, Capt. Benjamin S. Nicklin.

SPRINGFIELD, TENN.

Col. THOMAS J. DODDGEY.

15th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. George T. Armstrong.

BRIDGEPORT, ALA.

Maj. DANIEL T. CHICKEN.

1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Norman A. Balderin.
 Ohio Light Artillery, 9th Battery, Capt. Harrison B. York.

* Constituted the garrison artillery under Maj. John J. Ely.
 † Also in command of post, Gallatin, Tenn.

TROOPS ON THE NASHVILLE AND NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD.

Col. CHARLES R. THOMPSON.

12th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. Henry Hegner.
13th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John A. Hattenstein.
100th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Collin Ford.

DEFENSES OF THE NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT H. MEDLEY.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HORATIO P. VAN CLEVE.

61st Illinois,* Maj. Jerome H. Sutton,
3d Michigan,* Col. Moses B. Houghton,
4th Michigan,* Col. Jairus W. Hall,
115th Ohio, Col. Thomas C. Boone,
1st Michigan Light Artillery, Battery
D, Capt. Henry B. Corbin,
Ohio Light Artillery, 12th Battery, Capt.
Frank Jackson,
Wisconsin Light Artillery, 8th Battery,
Capt. Henry B. Sutton.

Third Brigade.

Col. WLADIMIR KRZYZANOWSKI.

20th Michigan, Col. Thomas Saylor,
58th New York, Maj. Michael Freeman,
100th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Gustavus Tafel,
180th Ohio, Col. Willard Warner,
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery K,
Capt. Lewis Heckman.

Tullahoma, Tenn.

Col. WILLIAM FORBES.

42d Missouri, Col. William Forbes,
50th Ohio, Capt. Elbert M. Sargent,
New York Light Artillery, 13th Battery, Capt. Henry Bundy.

UNASSIGNED REGIMENTS.

175th Ohio, Capt. Joseph M. Hestand,
75th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Alvin V. Matzdorf,
43d Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Byron Palmer.

DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH.

Maj. Gen. JAMES B. STEEDMAN.

FIRST SEPARATE DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JAMES B. STEEDMAN.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN H. KING.

16th United States, 2d Battalion, Capt. Thomas H. Norton,
16th United States, 3d Battalion (four companies), Capt. George M. Brayton,
10th United States (ten companies), Capt. Ebenezer Day,
18th United States, 2d Battalion, Capt. Henry R. Mizner,
19th United States, 1st Battalion, Capt. Thomas Cummings.

Second Brigade.

Col. CALVIN H. CARLTON.

20th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Samuel O. Gregory,
32d Indiana (detachment), Capt. Philip Wasson,
44th Indiana, Lieut. Col. James F. Curtis,
68th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Harvey J. Espy,
8th Kentucky (detachment),
18th Ohio, Lieut. Charles Grant,
15th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Ole C. Johnson.

*Temporarily attached.

During General Steedman's absence in the field, the troops remaining in the district were commanded by Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Meagher.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

68th New York, Col. John Prince, Major
 14th U. S. Colored Troop, Col. Thomas J. Morgan
 10th U. S. Colored Troop, Col. William H. Lewis
 14th U. S. Colored Troop, Col. Augustus C. Millington
 1st U. S. Colored Troop, Col. Joseph B. Putnam
 14th U. S. Colored Troop, Col. Lewis Johnson

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Indiana Light, 10th Battery, Capt. George A. Ayres
 Indiana Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Milton A. Osborne
 1st Michigan Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Albert E. W. Wilbur
 1st Michigan Light, 10th Battery, Capt. John C. Schaefer
 1st Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. William N. Stetson
 1st Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. William M. Lynde
 1st Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. George L. Foster
 Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. William A. Hartsfield
 1st Ohio Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Robert H. Hays
 1st Wisconsin Light, 10th Battery, Capt. John H. Hays
 Wisconsin Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. Wait

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

1st Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Joseph E. Collett

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Indiana Light, 10th Battery, Capt. George A. Ayres
 1st Michigan Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Albert E. W. Wilbur
 1st Michigan Light, 10th Battery, Capt. John C. Schaefer
 1st Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. William N. Stetson
 1st Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. William M. Lynde
 1st Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. George L. Foster
 Minnesota Light, 10th Battery, Capt. William A. Hartsfield
 1st Ohio Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Robert H. Hays
 1st Wisconsin Light, 10th Battery, Capt. John H. Hays
 Wisconsin Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. Wait

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

1st Michigan Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Albert E. W. Wilbur
 1st Michigan Light, 10th Battery, Capt. John C. Schaefer

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

1st Battalion, 10th Battery, Capt. George A. Ayres
 1st U. S. Colored Troop, 10th Battery, Capt. William H. Lewis

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

1st Illinois Light, 10th Battery, Capt. George A. Ayres
 Indiana Light, 10th Battery, Capt. William A. Hartsfield

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

U. S. VETERAN RESERVE CORPS

Col. Frank H. Cassill

Abstract from return of the Department of the Ohio, Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of December, 1861.

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Present for duty. | | Present for duty. | | Place of artillery. | Station. |
|--|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| General headquarters | 17 | | 47 | | 47 | | | In the field, Tenn. |
| Twenty-third Army Corps (Schofield): | | | | | | | | |
| Headquarters* | 14 | 40 | 54 | 54 | | | | In the field, |
| First Division (Ruggles) | 268 | 1,450 | 5,110 | 7,810 | | | | Columbia, Tenn. |
| Second Division (Horn) | 200 | 1,620 | 5,577 | 6,488 | | | | Do. |
| Third Division (Fox) | 211 | 5,140 | 6,225 | 6,304 | | | | Nashville, Columbia, |
| Fourth Division (Ammon) | 180 | 5,245 | 6,654 | 6,914 | | | | Tenn. |
| Military District of Kentucky (Buell): | | | | | | | | Knoxville, Tenn. |
| First Division (Hobbs) | 205 | 4,740 | 5,408 | 5,263 | | | | Lexington, Ky. |
| Second Division (Ewing) | 114 | 3,294 | 3,914 | 4,816 | | | | Coueyville, Ky. |
| Engineer Battalion (McClure) | 1 | 194 | 141 | 160 | | | | In the field, Tenn. |
| 1st Ohio Heavy Artillery (Howley) | 30 | 1,350 | 1,402 | 1,664 | | | | Cleveland, Tenn. |
| Total | 1,320 | 29,896 | 34,609 | 40,884 | | | | |
| District of Western Kentucky (Merrell): | 66 | 1,545 | 2,004 | 2,483 | | | | Paducah, Ky. |
| Grand total | 1,386 | 30,441 | 36,613 | 43,367 | | | | |
| Grand total according to return of the department. | 1,419 | 31,501 | 38,058 | 45,394 | | | | |

Organization of troops in the Department of the Ohio, commanded by Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield, U. S. Army, December 31, 1861.

TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD.

ENGINEER BATTALION.

Capt. OLIVER S. MCCLURE.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. WILLIAM C. MCCREARY.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS H. BUCKE.

First Brigade.

Col. JOHN M. ORR.

120th Indiana, Maj. John M. Barcus.
124th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Henry H. Kett.
128th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Jasper Packard.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOHN C. MCQUISTON.

123d Indiana, Maj. Irvin Robbins.
129th Indiana, Col. Charles A. Zollinger.
130th Indiana, Col. Charles S. Parrish.

Third Brigade.

Col. MINOR T. THOMAS.

8th Minnesota, Maj. George A. Camp.
174th Ohio, Col. John S. Jones.
176th Ohio, Col. Jacob A. Stafford.

Artillery.

Indiana Light, 22d Battery, Capt. Edward W. Nicholson.
1st Michigan Light, Battery F, Capt. Byron D. Paddock.

* Includes Signal Corps.

† Also known as District of East Tennessee.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

Major Gen. James A. McPherson.

First Brigade.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. James A. McPherson.

Col. John A. Brown.

26th Kentucky, Capt. John A. Brown
26th Michigan, Capt. Patrick H. Thompson
10th Ohio, Lieut. Col. John E. Hudson
2d Tennessee, Capt. William C. Brown
10th Tennessee, Capt. James H. Thompson
A. Marion Gamble.

1st Indiana, Lieut. Col. Charles H. Battenfield
10th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Hamilton S. Gil
1st Ohio, Lieut. Col. John E. Hudson
1st Ohio, Capt. George W. Hoge.

Second Brigade.

Artillery.

Col. Christopher H. Harrison.

Indiana Light, 2d Battery, Capt. Alonzo
1st Battery
Ohio Light, 2d Battery, Capt. Frank
Wilson.

10th Illinois, Capt. John W. Brown
20th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Alfred H. Brown
23d Michigan, Capt. William E. Thompson
11th Ohio, Lieut. Col. James H. Thompson
10th Ohio, Maj. Edgar Brown.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

Brig. Gen. James A. McPherson.

First Brigade.

Third Brigade.

Col. Christopher H. Harrison.

Col. James A. Brown.

10th Kentucky, Capt. John A. Brown
10th Kentucky, Capt. James Miller
10th Ohio, Capt. Frank Battenfield
10th Ohio, Capt. James W. Brown
8th Tennessee, Capt. James W. Brown.

10th Illinois, Capt. Sylvester F. Brown
1st Indiana, Lieut. Col. Daniel North
10th Indiana, Capt. Thomas J. Brady.

Second Brigade.

Artillery.

Col. John H. Harrison.

Indiana Light, 2d Battery, Lieut. Aaron
S. Brown
1st Ohio Light, Battery D, Capt. Glen J.
Crawford.

10th Illinois, Maj. George H. Brown
10th Indiana, Lieut. Col. John W. Brown
10th Ohio, Capt. Henry A. Brown
17th Ohio, Col. Arthur T. Brown
8th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Nathaniel
Will.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

Brig. Gen. James A. McPherson.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. William C. Harrison.

2d North Carolina Mounted Infantry (dismounted), Capt. Thomas
11th Tennessee Cavalry (dismounted), Maj. James H. Johnson
1st Michigan Light Artillery, Battery M, Capt. Augustus H. Emery
1st Tennessee Light Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. William O. Bowley.

Second Branch.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. HARRISON.

h Kentucky, Capt. Joseph H. Watkins.
 i North Carolina Mounted Infantry (three companies), Lieut. Col. George W. Kirk.
 i Tennessee, Capt. Thomas J. Rogers.
 i Tennessee, Capt. William M. Murray.
 i Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Michael L. Patterson.
 h Kentucky Cavalry, Maj. James H. Harrison.
 h Michigan Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Entley S. Frenchbridge.
 iols Light Artillery, Colville's Battery, Capt. John H. Collins.
 iols Light Artillery, Elgin Battery, Capt. Andrew M. Wood.
 iols Light Artillery, Houshew's Battery, Lieut. Asa C. Postum.
 Michigan Light Artillery, Battery E, Capt. Charles Neal.
 iols Light Artillery, 21st Battery, Capt. James H. Waller.
 iols Light Artillery, 25th Battery, Lieut. Harvey Boardell.
 iana Light Artillery, Wilder Battery, Capt. Haddock T. Thomas.
 Ohio Heavy Artillery, Col. Horatio H. Gibson.
 U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, Col. John A. Shannon.

MILITARY DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

Brig. Maj. Gen. JAMES H. HARRISON.

First Division.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD H. HANCOCK.

Camp Nelson, Ky.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE S. FAY.

43d Indiana, Company I, Capt. James H. Fay.
 44th Indiana, Company I, B. Veteran Reserve Corps (2d Battalion), Capt. George
 125th Company U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (2d Battalion), Capt. George
 1st Kentucky Cavalry, Maj. Alexander H. Brown.
 5th U. S. Colored Cavalry (three companies), Capt. John Anderson.
 6th U. S. Colored Cavalry (three companies), Capt. George F. Mayhew.

Frankfort, Ky.

1st Ohio Heavy Artillery (three companies), Capt. William H. Smith.

Frankfort, Ky.

46th Indiana, Col. Thomas H. Houghland.
 49th Indiana (six companies), Maj. James Longest.
 1st Kentucky Light Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. William R. H. Nash.
 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, Company B, Capt. Charles W. Hyde.

Lancaster, Ky.

14th Kentucky, Lieut. Col. Rhys M. Thomas.
 24th Kentucky, Col. John S. Hart.
 30th Kentucky (mounted), Col. Francis M. Alexander.
 39th Kentucky, Lieut. Col. Stephen M. Fergusson.
 70th Company U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (2d Battalion), Lieut. David G. Falconer.

Mount Sterling, Ky.

11th Michigan Cavalry, Col. Simon B. Brown.
 1st Kentucky Light Artillery, Battery C, Lieut. Richard W. McRaynolds.

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VA., W. VA., TENN., MISS., ALA., AND N. GA. (Cont.)

Disbandment, Reg.

1863-1864: 1st Reg. Col. Robert H. Bentley.

Regimental Headquarters

Regt. Head. House & Kitchen

Regt. Head. House

Regt. Head. House

17th Illinois (two companies), Lieut. Robert H. Bentley.
18th Kentucky (one company), Lieut. John H. Tyler.
19th U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. Thomas H. Hays.
20th U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. Nathaniel H. Foster.
21st Wisconsin, May 1864, Lieut. H. H. Hays.

Regt. Head. House

22nd Kentucky, Lieut. Col. William M. Bluff.
23rd Kentucky, Lieut. Col. John H. Hays.
24th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. George W. Kingsbury.
25th Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. Gottlob Hummel.
26th Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. Patrick Dwyer.
27th Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. John Stephenson.
28th Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. Anthony Amel-son.
29th Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. Peter F. Kelly.
30th Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. James Hart.
31st Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. Samuel H. Mor-ison.
32nd Company, 1st U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Battery B, Lieut. Noah W. Yoder.

1864-1865

1st Ohio Heavy Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. Robert H. Bentley.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, D. C.

Regt. Head. House & Kitchen

Regt. Head. House

Regt. Head. House

49th Illinois, Lieut. Col. William F. Moore.
7th Tennessee Cavalry (three companies), Lieut. Col. Isaac H. Hawk.
2d Illinois Light Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. Thomas F. Dawson.
8th U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, Battery B, Lieut. Henry W. Barry.

Smithland, Ky.

Capt. Henry P. Moore.

17th Kentucky Cavalry (one company).
18th U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery (two companies).

(Abstract from returns of the Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, Ret. Maj. Gen. James H. Wilson, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of December, 1861.)

(Compiled monthly from subordinates' returns.)

| Command. | Present for duty. | Present for duty. | Present for duty. | Present for duty. | Headquarters. |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| General headquarters. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | In the field, Tenn. |
| 1st U. S. Cavalry (Hodges). | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Edgewood, Tenn. |
| 2nd Division (McCook). | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Edgewood, Tenn. |
| 3rd Division (Loring). | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Atones, Ala. |
| 4th Division (Harris). | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Edgewood, Tenn. |
| 5th Division (McPherson). | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Do. |
| 6th Division (Kilpatrick). | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Do. |
| Total. | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | |
| Grand total according to reports to date. | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | |

Organization of troops in the Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, commanded by Ret. Maj. Gen. James H. Wilson, U. S. Army, December 31, 1861.

First Corps.

1st U. S. Cavalry, Lieut. Joseph Hodges.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HOWARD M. MCCOOK.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN T. CHICKLER.

1st Iowa, Col. Joseph B. Ford.

1st Kentucky (mounted infantry), Col. Robert M. Kelly.

1st Michigan, Lieut. Col. Benjamin Smith.

1st Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Calvin M. Fair.

Illinois Light Artillery, Chicago Heavy Artillery, Capt. George I. Robinson.

Second Brigade.

Col. CHARLES H. LAMAR.

2d Indiana (battalion), Capt. Kenneth B. Hill.

1st Indiana, Lieut. Col. Henry P. Lammson.

1st Wisconsin, Maj. Henry Harnden.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. LOUIS G. WATKINS.

1st Kentucky, Lieut. Col. George Welling.

1st Kentucky, Maj. William H. Fuller.

7th Kentucky, Col. John R. Paulkner.

Artillery.

Indiana Light, 10th Battery, Capt. Moses M. Beck.

For abstract of the Third Division (Kilpatrick's), see Vol. XLIV, p. 348; for abstract of the Fourth Division (L'Heureux's), see Vol. XLV, Part IV, p. 973.

(Serving as escort.)

(Temporarily attached from Second Division.)

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SEVENTH DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH E. KNIFE.

*First Brigade.**Second Brigade.*

Byt. Brig. Gen. JOHN H. HAMMOND.

Col. GILBERT M. L. JOHNSON.

16th Indiana, Col. George W. Jackson.
 9th Indiana, Maj. Thomas G. Williams.
 16th Pennsylvania, Maj. Amos J. Holman.
 2d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. William R. Cook.
 14th Tennessee, Maj. Meshack Stephens.

12th Indiana, Maj. William H. Calkins.
 13th Indiana, Maj. Ramon S. Moore.
 6th Tennessee, Col. Fielding Hurst.

Artillery.

Ohio Light, 14th Battery, Lieut. William C. Myers.

Abstract from return of the Northern Department, Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of December, 1861.

| Command. | Present for duty. | | Aggregate present. | Aggregate present not absent. | Pieces of artillery. | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| | Cavalry. | Inf. | | | Heavy. | Field. |
| General headquarters | 15 | | 15 | 15 | | |
| Camp Chase, Ohio (Richardson) | 23 | 677 | 1,031 | 1,159 | | |
| Camp Thomas, Ohio (Caldwell) | 2 | 30 | 68 | 81 | | |
| Camp Dennison, Ohio (Noyes) | 6 | 30 | 48 | 53 | | |
| Cincinnati, Ohio (Willich) | 24 | 290 | 501 | 583 | | |
| Sandusky and Johnson's Island (Hill) | 25 | 1,027 | 1,070 | 1,061 | 7 | 3 |
| Camp Cleveland, Ohio (Smith) | 5 | 100 | 112 | 114 | | 0 |
| Camp Cleveland, Ohio (Smith) | 9 | 130 | 201 | 238 | | |
| Gallipolis, Ohio (Allen) | 71 | 1,675 | 2,750 | 3,260 | | |
| District of Indiana (Hovey) | 130 | 2,502 | 4,250 | 5,851 | | 0 |
| District of Illinois (Cook) | 28 | 424 | 650 | 782 | | |
| District of Michigan (Hill) | | | | | | |
| Total | 311 | 7,449 | 11,371 | 13,123 | 7 | 15 |

Organization of troops in the Northern Department, commanded by Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, U. S. Army, December 31, 1861.

CAMP CHASE, OHIO.

Col. WILLIAM P. RICHARDSON.

37th Iowa (three companies), Lieut. Col. George R. West.
 88th Ohio, Col. George W. Nell.

CAMP THOMAS, OHIO.

Maj. JAMES N. CALDWELL.

Permanent Company, 18th United States, Maj. James N. Caldwell.

CAMP DENNISON, OHIO.

Col. EDWARD F. NOYES.

126th Company U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (2d Battalion), Capt. Joseph O'Neill.

OFFICE OF THE GOV.

Brig. Gen. JOHN COOK,

Camp Butler.

Col. CHARLES M. PREVOST,

Illinois (detachment), Capt. John M. Single,
Iowa (detachment), Capt. Charles Barker,
U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps (detachment), Col. Charles M. Prevost,
Wisconsin (detachment), Lieut. Bartlett M. Low.

Camp Douglas.

Col. BENJAMIN J. FOWLER,

8th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Col. Lewis C. Blawie,
5th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Maj. James F. Connelley,
Ohio Light Artillery, 24th Battery, Capt. John L. Hill.

Camp

42d Wisconsin (detachment), Col. Peter F. Spurgeon.

Camp

Col. HENRY H. DENNIS,

Illinois (detachment), Col. Henry H. Dennis,
Company U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps 23d Battalion, Lieut. S. P. Cooper.

Rock Island

Col. ANDREW J. JOHNSON,

8. Colored Troops, Maj. Andrew J. Johnson,
8. Veteran Reserve Corps, Maj. Benjamin F. Har-
mory U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps and Headquarters, Capt.

Headquarters

Lieut. Col. BENJAMIN F. HARRIS

United States (detachment), Maj. Benjamin F. Harris,
8. Veteran Reserve Corps and Headquarters, Maj. Benjamin F. Harris,
Company U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps and Headquarters, Maj. Benjamin F. Harris.

Headquarters, Rock Island, Ill.

Rev. Maj. JOHN L. JOHNSON

PULASKI, TENN., January 1, 1865, 4 p. m.
(Received 11 p. m.)

Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

Washington, D. C. :

dispatch from Major-General Steedman, dated December 30,
today reports his command at Courtland, Ala., and a small cav-
alry with him advanced as far as Town Creek on that day, having
some captures since leaving Decatur, and that prisoners and

citizens informed him that Hood had retreated toward Corinth. This information is confirmed by a report from General Wilson, of 6 a. m. yesterday, at Blue Water Church, Ala. I have ordered all the cavalry to concentrate at Paducah, also, General Smith's and Schofield's commands. General Wood has been ordered to Huntsville with his command, where it will be as conveniently located for the resumption of active operations as at Tusculum, having a substantial pontoon bridge across the river at Decatur to cross on at any time. All the preliminary orders to getting the troops ready have been issued, and I shall go to the post myself, by way of Nashville, starting day after tomorrow (at instance). I omitted to mention in my dispatch of last night that nearly all the regiments ordered to reinforce me in November last have been absorbed in replacing regiments whose terms of service have expired, and, therefore, my available force will consist only the troops which recomposed the campaign at Nashville, increased by eight regiments, ordered from Murfreesborough to join General Schofield, Long's division of cavalry, and two brigades of McCook's division of cavalry.

WM. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Paducah, Kentucky, 1, 1863. [Received 8 p. m.]

ADJUTANT GENERAL,
Washington, D. C.

The reserve artillery of the Army of the Tennessee I have ordered Savannah, to join General Sherman. It is now at Nashville. Do you wish it fully equipped before starting? The batteries require more horse guns, caissons, horses, and harness. Half the batteries have horses, caissons, or harness.

WM. H. THOMAS,
Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

[Enclosed under Government.]

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
January 1, 1863—9.15 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: Does this require reply to-night; and if so, what answer shall be sent?

Respectfully,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Enclosed under Government.]

JANUARY 1, 1863

This requires no answer to-night. I will answer it in the morning with other orders. General Sherman does not want any more artill

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, *January 1, 1865.*

Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

Steps have been taken, and every effort will be made to carry them out for the reorganization of the State. A convention will assemble on Monday, the 9th of January. The courts are all being established, and so far are working well. Soon after the meeting of the convention there will be an election held for members of Congress, Legislature and Senate. The effect of the great victory over Hood's army at Nashville is being seen and felt in every part of the State; its withering influence upon rebellion is more decided than anything which has preceded since the beginning of the rebellion. I thank you for the suggestions you have made in regard to placing the State in the hands of the citizens, and the aid you have proposed to give in doing so. The work can now be undertaken with greater prospect of success than at any former period, and no effort on my part shall be omitted in order to accomplish so desirable an end. It is not necessary for me to say that you have a nation's gratitude for what you have done in preserving the Government of the United States, but my prayer is that all future efforts in the preservation of the Union may be, as the past have been, crowned with success and outlasting honor.

ANDREW JOHNSON,
Military Governor of Tennessee.

PULASKI, TENN., *January 1, 1865.*

Major Gen. JAMES L. DONALDSON,

Nashville, Tenn.:

On the 30th December I received a dispatch from General Rousseau, advising me that the Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth Missouri had been ordered by rail as far as Spring Hill, but could get no farther for want of wagons, which could not be secured before Wednesday. One of these movements is intended to garrison Columbus; the other Pulaski. The reason for these places is much needed. Can they get wagons soon?

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, *January 1, 1865.*

Major Gen. W. D. WHITTLE:

Will see that forage for Huntsville and Chattanooga and forage for transport get in time. I don't know anything about wagons for garrison at Pulaski, as it is the first I have heard of it. If quartermaster here will inform me of his wants, will see he is promptly supplied. You had better keep me posted as to number of troops and animals at Eastport and what time they will be likely to remain there, so as to make arrangements here accordingly.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

PULASKI, TENN., *January 1, 1865.*

Major Gen. JAMES L. DONALDSON,

Nashville, Tenn.:

The Twenty-third Army Corps starts to-morrow morning for Eastport via Clifton. It will reach Clifton by the 7th instant. Please have

RA. W. VA., TENN., MISS., ALA., AND S. GA. (Contd.)

hundred tons for the winter campaign. It is supplied up to the instant, and will be used at the rate of 10,000 pounds forage and 20,000 ration units daily. Athens, Ga.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

PULASKI, TENN., January 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JAMES L. DONALDSON,

Athens, Tenn.

The whole of Whipple's command is ordered to Eastport; therefore, see forage for it to that place.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

PULASKI, January 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DONALDSON,

Athens, Tenn.

The Fourth Army Corps is ordered to Huntsville, and will probably require a little forage at that place, until they get to foraging for themselves.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, Tenn., January 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,

Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

GENERAL: Your recommendations of the 21st ult., suggesting plan for continued operations this winter, have been received. Probably some such plan will be adopted, and you will hear by the inclosed copy of telegram* from General Halleck, that the lieutenant general is not disposed to permit our army to rest long. Therefore general commanding directs that Athens be not occupied by your troops, but that the entire corps be concentrated at Huntsville, and all returns made up to date and full preparations made for continuing the campaign at as early a date as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

PULASKI, TENN., January 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,

Athens, Ala.

Concentrate your whole corps at Huntsville and prepare for an early resumption of the winter campaign. Instructions by letter have been sent you. The Twenty-third Corps goes to Eastport.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

* See 11.30 a. m. December 31, p. 444.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Elk River, January 1, 1865.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you send out foraging parties from each brigade of your division, for the purpose of collecting breadstuff and meat only. Household property, animals not fit for meat, &c., must not be taken. Brigade commissaries of subsistence must receipt for all property taken. He also directs that you seize mills in the country and grind for your division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to Generals Elliott, Beatty, and Major Goodspeed.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Elk River, January 1, 1865.

Brigadier-General ELLIOTT,
Second Division:

You will send out fifteen wagons of your supply train, early to-morrow morning, through the country in the vicinity of your camp, for the purpose of collecting flooring for the bridge which is now being constructed at Buck Island Ford. Send at least five men with each wagon, and let them select plank from one inch thick upward. They can take all plank and flooring in all old outbuildings and unoccupied houses they may find. The wagons with the lumber should report to Colonel Sumner at the ford by 12 m. to-morrow.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mount Kozell, Ala., January 1, 1865.

Orders for to-day:

This command will march, following the First Division, to Buck Island Ford, in the following order: Second Brigade, Colonel McConnell; Third Brigade, Colonel Kneller; First Brigade, Colonel Streight; artillery; all wheel vehicles, &c.

By order of Brigadier-General Beatty:

M. P. HESTOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., *January 1, 1865.*

Major-General HALLACK,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

The Twenty-third Army Corps now contains only a minimum number of regiments, and their terms of service begin to expire very soon. I respectfully request that new regiments may be raised in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and any other Western States, for this corps.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

Polaski, January 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield,
Columbus, Tenn.

You are authorized for what amount of provisions; but in view of a continuation of active operations the major-general commanding desires that you will for no expenditures be prompt.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.Brigadier-General Whipple,
Polaski.

COLUMBIA, January 1, 1865.

Your dispatch has received. I also wish to leave my command in the field, if no other operations are to be undertaken. My request was based upon the order of December 27, allowing my troops to go into winter camp. If the troops are likely to leave there in four weeks' rest, I would like to give the remainder of the winter to the troops and what the probability is.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Polaski, January 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield,
Columbus, Tenn.

After orders had been sent from the War Department the rear-admiral telegraphed that the rebels were fortifying themselves. This caused a suspension of your order. Since then the lieutenant-general has ordered an immediate prosecution of the campaign, and we are waiting to get information of Hines' force and movement for further orders for your corps to move. You will then probably go to the front. Dana has cut the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and is pushing for the Columbia. Rodley has been thrust out of Decatur and sent to report to General Girard. Please keep sending the weekly reports of the force here, it being necessary to provide provisions; also keep the general well informed as to number of animals in Twenty-third Corps.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Polaski, January 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield,
Columbus, Tenn.

The major-general commanding directs that you march the Twenty-third Corps, via Mount Pleasant and Waynesborough, to Clifton, on Tennessee River, and there embark for Eastport. Disembark at latter point, and prepare for an early prosecution of the campaign. Inform me when you will be at Clifton and what you wish sent you by steamer besides provisions and forage.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

CHICKASAW, *Texas, January 1, 1865.*

Major-General WHITFIELD,
Palo Alto.

I received your dispatch ordering the Twenty-third Corps to
via Clifton. I will start tomorrow, and expect to reach Clifton
7th. My troops will be supplied up to the 10th. I will want at
60,000 pounds of forage and 25,000 rations per day.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE GULF.

Indianapolis, Texas, January 2, 1865.

Major-General WHITFIELD,
State of Illinois.

SIR: I am anxious to have a few new regiments added to the
in States for the Twenty-third Army Corps, which will soon be
reduced by the muster out of old regiments. This corps is to be
represented in the corps, though under the same organization.
called the attention of the War Department to the matter, and
proposition meets with approval there, that I need only one Illinois
least three or four of the regiments necessary to maintain the
y-third Corps to maintain its present position for the kind of Major
Major Wells, who will head you there, has already been sent to
mulation for the command of a regiment, has already been sent to
is well qualified.

I am, Governor, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,

Major-General.

OFFICIAL
ORDERS,
No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE GULF.

In the Field, Indianpolis, Texas.

January 2, 1865.

The corps will march to meet me, according to the plan, via Houston, via Houston
and Wynneshorough, in the following order: Third Division;
d Division; First Division. Each division will be followed by a
baggage train; second, ammunition train; and third, a reserve
ply train (six days' rations of ammunition and baggage). The reserve
will follow the train of the last division. The baggage divisions will
habitually at daylight in the morning, and will be followed by the
divisions at convenient marching distances. The divisions may
reserve this distance in marching, if it be found convenient for the
The day's march will be from ten to fifteen miles, according to the
eter of the road.

command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, January 4, 1863. 5 p. m.Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps, Huntsville:

Upon receipt of your communication expressing a wish to concentrate the cavalry near Eastport, I immediately dispatched you authorizing you to do so, as in your note you said you would remain in your camp until you heard from me. A dispatch received from Washington yesterday directs me to concentrate my forces on the Tennessee, and be prepared to pursue Hood on receipt of orders. I therefore wish you to concentrate your whole force at Eastport, or vicinity, as soon as you can, and make every preparation for a renewal of the campaign.

J. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HUNTSVILLE, January 4, 1863. 5 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHITPLE,
Chief of Staff:

I arrived here this evening. Find the country safe out. Must leave rations and forage as soon as possible. Please inform me who is to command the town. I would rather be relieved of civil matters.

J. H. WILSON,
Major-General.HQ. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Huntsville, January 4, 1863. 5 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your dispatch of 4 p. m. is just received. The suggestions of my communications were based upon (what) I regarded [as] very probable contingencies, but your instructions were such that I did not feel at liberty to delay in obeying them. My command is in no condition to make the march you direct; they have no cover, have no shelter over frozen or slony ways, and must have shelter and a opportunity to show up and fight. Your order, however, is imperative, and I will, therefore, order everything back in the morning, unless authorized to delay. Long and Meade should be directed to make a demand on Eastport. Please notify Major Remond.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HUNTSVILLE, January 4, 1863.

Brig. Gen. E. M. McCook:

As soon as your command is in proper condition march, via Columbia, Mount Pleasant, and Waynesborough, with all your transportation to Eastport.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

Proclamation.

HUGHES, DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN VA. AND EAST TENN.,

Wytheville, Va., January 13, 1865.

A proclamation dated November 7, 1864, having been issued from these headquarters offering pardon to all citizens of East Tennessee who, having joined the U. S. Army, should, prior to January 1, in good faith abandon the service and return to their homes for the pursuit of their lawful avocations, notice is hereby given that the limit thereby fixed is extended to the 1st of March, 1865. Deserters from the Confederate Army and persons who have been guilty of high crimes are alone excluded from the benefit of these terms. All others who embrace the terms of the proclamation shall be held free from molestation of any kind, subject only to the conditions that they shall conduct themselves as peaceable citizens and refrain from all acts in violation of civil laws or military orders.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,

*Major-General.*TERRY, *January 11, 1865.*

(Received 4 o'clock 16th.)

Hon. J. A. SEPPON:

General Beauregard will arrive here to-morrow. I will then communicate more fully in regard to my request contained in cipher telegram of yesterday morning. I have only [the] interest of my country at stake.

J. B. HOOD,

General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tupelo, Miss., January 11, 1865.

Hood commands that you will keep all commanding officers on alert for deserters, and should men desert have them promptly taken to these headquarters, and at the same time take every measure to capture them. A few parties who desert can be caught and promptly punished. Desertions of all kinds are daily taking place in the vicinity of the army, and commanding officers should be constantly employed in camp, and under good officers, should be sent out to arrest and bring to camp all men who are caught deserting.

A. P. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Tupelo, Miss., January 11, 1865.

General STEWART,
Commanding Corps.

Hood directs that you keep a guard at Verona, to get all who come upon the trains; they now come here, and have to go to camp.

A. P. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tupelo, Miss., January 11, 1865.

General STEWART,
Commanding Corps.

Hood directs that you will keep all commanding officers on alert for deserters, and should men desert have them promptly taken to these headquarters, and at the same time take every measure to capture them. A few parties who desert can be caught and promptly punished. Desertions of all kinds are daily taking place in the vicinity of the army, and commanding officers should be constantly employed in camp, and under good officers, should be sent out to arrest and bring to camp all men who are caught deserting.

A. P. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.
(to Generals Cheatham and Stevenson.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Tupelo, Miss., January 14, 1865.

Gen. N. B. FORTNEY,
Commanding Cavalry.

Hood directs that you will keep some picked bodies of cavalry at hand that they may be ready to pursue and capture any men who desert from the army. If the first party of deserters can be caught and promptly punished, it will perhaps deter others from doing so.

A. P. MASON,
Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BRIDGEPORT, January 1, 1865.

J. H. A. FORD, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

plain Wemple, Thirteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, has just
ted to me the capture of block-house and an entire company at
t Rock bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. O. MILLINGTON,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

BRIDGEPORT, January 1, 1865.

J. H. A. FORD, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

have just learned that Paint Rock bridge has been burned by the
ds.

A. O. MILLINGTON,
Commanding Post.

GENERAL ORDERS, }

No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
MILITARY DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY,
Lexington, Ky., January 1, 1865.

The brigade organizations in this division are hereby dissolved. The
pective regiments heretofore composing the brigade will report
ect to these headquarters, except when at Camp Nelson, Lexington,
vington, or Louisa, Ky., in which case they will report to command-
; officer U. S. forces or commandant of the post.

By command of Brig. Gen. E. H. Hobson:

J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., January 2, 1865—7 p. m.

Adj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, Washington:

Inform General Thomas that he will require no new outfit of teams;
s troops will either operate in a country which will supply them, or
is surplus ones will be sent where it is not desirable to transport
agons and mules. There has always been an unnecessary accumu-
tion of teams in the Department of the Cumberland along the rail-
oads, where every supply, but fuel, was brought on the cars. The
epartment of the Ohio also had a large number of wagons and
mules, owing to having attempted to supply themselves through Cum-
erland Gap.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 2, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS, Pulaski:

The orders of General Grant to concentrate your forces on the Tennes-
see were not intended to interfere in any manner with your pursuit of
Hood, or your cutting off his lines of railroad, &c.; they have reference
to what is to be done when your present operations are concluded.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

PULASKI, TENN., January 2, 1865—8 p. m.
(Received 10.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

Washington, D. C.

Reports received today seem to confirm my report that Hood has gone to Corinth with his army, but I can scarcely believe he will attempt to halt at Corinth with the railroad broken in his rear; and, besides this, I have received a telegram from General Steedman, dated Corinth, December 31, in which he states that citizens and deserters inform him that there is no word of the enemy either at Florence or Tusculum; it being also reported to him that the enemy's pontoon train had left by Grange on the morning of the 30th for Russellville, with orders to go to Columbus, Miss., he had sent his cavalry force in pursuit, hoping to be able to overtake it on the road and destroy it.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, January 2, 1865.

Major-General THOMAS, Pulaski, Tenn.

No artillery need be sent to General Sherman; we can give him from here all he may require.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Pulaski, January 2, 1865. (Received 1.25 p. m.)

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY.

Washington.

Many deserters are coming from the enemy, and are, of course, desirous of taking the amnesty oath and being permitted to live at home. Some bona fide deserters could probably be trusted. What is the policy of the Administration with regard to these men?

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

FRANKLIN FAIRY,
Paducah, January 2, 1865.

Major-General THOMAS:

Your two telegrams of the 25th and 26th (ultimo) received to-day. There are five army transports and two barges here. General Croxton's command came last night. Hood is reported to have crossed the foot or over Big Mussel Shoals. This river has fallen nine feet, and is still falling, preventing continuance of operations above Waterloo. My cipher operator left me at Clarksville. Of course, Hood being near Corinth, which deserters say he is fortifying, attracted by your transports, will annoy this part of the river. Would like to know your plans so far as naval co-operation is concerned. How can you communicate confidentially?

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

PULASKI, TENN., January 2, 1863.

Brig. Gen. J. L. DOWDNEY,

Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn.

The major general commanding directs me to say that he desires to make the necessary arrangements by the fifth instant to move his headquarters, viz., himself and staff, with the present outfit of campaign garrison equipage, the necessary commissary and baggage mules, about forty wagons and ambulances, with the necessary mules, private horses, and all connected therewith, by the route from Nashville to Eastport, on the Tennessee River. Acknowledge receipt.

ROBERT H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PULASKI, TENN., January 2, 1863.

Maj. P. O'CONNELL,

Commanding Detachment Fourth Army Corps.

Put down your headquarters at the place where the Tennessee River at Decatur at the place where the old river was put.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
*Brigadier-General.*SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 2. Pulaski, Tenn., January 2, 1863.

I. As soon as the report of suspension at Spoling Hill is broken up, the Forty-fifth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, now at that place, will proceed to Johnsonville, Tenn., via Nashville, for duty at that point.

III. The Forty-seventh Missouri Volunteer Infantry will proceed to Pulaski, Tenn., as soon as transportation can be furnished, and relieve the detachment of the Fourth Army Corps, now doing garrison duty at that place, under the command of Lieut. Col. T. Clark. Upon being relieved, Lieutenant Colonel Clark will proceed without delay to Huntsville, Ala., guarding the wagon train of the Fourth Army Corps to that place.

IV. The Forty-eighth Missouri Volunteer Infantry will proceed without delay to Columbia, Tenn., for the purpose of guarding the railroad between that point and Pulaski, Tenn.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
*Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.*HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, January 2, 1863.

Col. T. CLARK,

Commanding Detachment Fourth Army Corps.

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that you will direct any complete organizations of cavalry that may arrive at Pulaski, such as companies commanded by commissioned officers, battalions, or regiments, to proceed, via Lawrenceburg, by the most direct possible road, to Waterloo, on the Tennessee River, to report to Brevet Major-General Wilson.

Please collect all the mounted stragglers and men reporting themselves as guarding private property belonging to the First, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Divisions of the Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, and turn them over to the organizations going to Waterloo. All dismounted men that arrive after our wagon trains have left this place order to report to Col. G. G. Miner, commanding Camp Webster, at Nashville. I have no doubt that there are great numbers of soldiers of the Cavalry Corps prowling around the country, and you will confer a great favor upon General Wilson by collecting them and forwarding to their commands. Some of these stragglers are no doubt engaged in robbing the inhabitants, and any punishment you can devise for them will meet the hearty approval of General Wilson.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Asst. Adj. Gen., Cavalry Corps, Mil. Div. of the Miss.

PULASKI, TENN., January 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Columbia:

If your pontoon train is not needed in East Tennessee the major-general commanding would like to have it sent to Eastport. It can be floated as far as Bridgeport, and should the river be high all the way to Eastport. Should the river be low they can be loaded upon cars at Bridgeport and sent around via Nashville and the rivers.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Pulaski, Tenn., January 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Columbia:

Colonel Mackay wishes your wagons now at Chattanooga. I referred a dispatch on this subject to you; if you got it, will you please answer.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

COLUMBIA, TENN., January 2, 1865.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Pulaski:

I am very unwilling to part with my wagons and mules at Chattanooga. I had to obtain them from Kentucky with no little difficulty. Last spring I had to commence the campaign almost without transportation, because the mules I had collected in Kentucky had been taken without my knowledge for the other armies. I have been all summer and the winter up to this time in collecting the transportation needed for my corps. If I part with it now, the same trouble will exist next spring. I received and answered Colonel Mackay's dispatch on this subject several days ago.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Tenn., January 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COCHRAN,

Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Cox will start promptly at 6 a. m., and will take the old Waynesborough road, which leaves the pike about three miles from this place, bearing to the right of it; thus the pike will be clear for your division, from a point three miles ahead to Waynesborough. General Cox thinks he will be out of your way if you start at 7 o'clock. I will probably not go to-morrow beyond the forks of the road; will wait there until I receive reports from you and General Cox concerning the condition of the roads, which are both said to be bad, and decide which road General Roper shall take. Please send to-morrow evening the result of your observation so far as you go, and what you can learn from citizens of the state of the roads beyond. I have ordered the engineer battalion to go in the advance of your unit and repair the road as much as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFFIELD,

Major-General

GENERAL ORDERS,) HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
No. 2,) TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Mount Pleasant, Tenn., January 2, 1865.

I. Paragraphs I and II, General Orders, No. 1, current series, from these headquarters, is hereby rescinded.

By command of Brigadier-General Cox:

THEO. COX,

Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.]

HQ. THIRD DIVISION, 23d ARMY CORPS,
Mount Pleasant, Tenn., January 2, 1865.

The command will move forward on the Waynesborough road promptly at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, in the following order: Second and Third Brigades, Colonel Cassament; battery; Third Brigade, Colonel Stiles; battery; First Brigade, Colonel Houghton.

By command of Brigadier-General Cox:

THEO. COX,

Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CLIFTON, TENN., January 2, 1865.

(Received 5th.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

I arrived here at 4 p. m., and found only five small boats, capable of carrying not over 3,000 men. We have two barges that will carry a battery each, and the horses will be distributed on the boats. I will try and take my transportation by land to Waterloo, as I can never get it there on the steamers furnished. I go up in the morning with the first fleet, and return immediately, and will urge everything forward

as rapidly as possible. We found rations and grain, but no hay. I am unable to ascertain the whereabouts of Hood; he went toward Corinth. Some troops have arrived at Waterloo; can't learn who they are. Only 4,000 pairs of shoes and stockings have arrived. We need clothing very much; our estimate was sent in before leaving Pulaski.

Very respectfully,

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEAN,
In the Field, Tenn., January 2, 1865.

Col. B. H. WOLFE,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The First and Third Brigades of this division will embark on transports for Eastport, Miss., to-morrow. The batteries, with battery wagon, and forge, and one six-mule wagon, will go with their brigade, but all other wheels will be left at this point, in charge of brigade quartermasters, until transportation can be furnished. The baggage of officers and men will be taken along, as well as the authorized horses of brigade and regimental officers. The batteries will be placed on the boats, first commencing at 6 a. m., and under the direction of Capt. Lowell, chief of artillery; at 8.30 a. m. the troops will be in readiness to embark, and will be placed on the boats, under the direction of a division staff officer, commencing with the Third Brigade.

By order of Brigadier-General Gannard:

JAMES B. COMSTOCK,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Huntsville, Ala., January 2, 1865.

Major-General THOMAS,
Pulaski, Tenn.:

I have made arrangements to have rations issued to my command at Athens. If 2,000 sets of fitted horseshoes and nails could be sent by special train from Nashville, Ala., one from here could connect with it at Paint Rock Creek and deliver them at Athens by to-morrow noon, and in a short time we could march in obedience to your orders. Please answer.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

PULASKI, January 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Huntsville, Ala.:

By direction of the major-general commanding, I have ordered 2,000 fitted horseshoes, with nails complete, to be sent by special train from Nashville, as you request, stating that a train from Athens will connect at Paint Rock Creek. Will inform you when the train starts from Nashville.

ROBT. H. RAMSBY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

weeks my corps can take the field with 25,000 men, capable of accomplishing any work that can be assigned them. I have no troops poor enough to use any other than the best arms. I have also to call your attention to the misuse of the sureingle, and the necessity for the breast-strap instead of the crupper. After a close observation for several months, I am able to state that not one trooper out of ten can be induced to put the sureingle around the saddle and belly of his horse, but that in almost every instance the sureingle is used as breast-strap. Would it not be much better to leave the sureingle out altogether, dispense with the crupper, and substitute a very plain breast-strap? I think, upon investigation, you will decide in favor, at least, of providing the breast-strap, even if you do not admit the others. There is certainly a very great necessity for it. In a country where the cavalry fighting is necessarily nearly all dismounted, means should be devised for leaving the sabers with the horses. The Stewart attachment seems to subserve every purpose. I have therefore to request that 20,000 be sent to Nashville depot for issue to my command.

Hoping you will pardon the liberty I have taken,

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Huntsville, Ala., January 2, 1865.

Capt. JOHN GREEN,

Special Inspector Cavalry, High Street, Nashville:

The Corps is ordered to concentrate at Eastport. Do everything in your power to send forward Hatch's, Hammond's, and Harrison's men properly mounted, and to obtain horses for the balance of Johnson's, Kuiper's, and Upton's divisions. Horses might be concentrated more easily at Eastport than Nashville; it will take not less than 10,000 to completely mount us; they ought to be got at once. I would like Spencer carbines, without delay, for Hatch and McCook. Please find out from the bureau what can be done. I leave for Eastport to-morrow.

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General.

PULASKI, January 2, 1865.

Captain GRIFFIN,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

Direct General McCook to proceed to Eastport, on the Tennessee River, opposite Waterloo, with all the men of his command, ready for field service. He will be ferried across the Tennessee River at Waterloo. If possible, the wagons will follow the division; if not, they will be sent to Clifton, on Tennessee River, and taken from thence to Eastport by boat. Direct General Long, with his division, to Waterloo and Eastport, and send his teams with General McCook. If the teams can travel with the troops, it will be best. If the condition of the roads prevent carrying loads, the property of the division must be sent by boat from Nashville to Eastport. The wagons will be used to carry light loads of forage, &c.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., January 2, 1865.

Lieut. Col. C. C. MINER,
Commanding Dismounted Cavalry Camp:

COLONEL: Frequent and bitter complaints are made by the people in the vicinity of Edgesfield in regard to depredations that are being made by the cavalry command. General Johnson has applied to these headquarters to be placed in supreme command of the cavalry force in Edgesfield, for the purpose of putting a stop to these practices, at the same time reporting that neither his own nor General Knipe's command are guilty of the acts charged. His application has been returned disapproved. You will therefore take stringent measures to see that your men do not leave camp, without proper passes, that a camp guard is constantly kept on duty, and that Major Moore does likewise. If trouble arises from Major Moore's men, they must be removed to a point under your immediate eye. You will also send out daily such mounted patrols as you can muster and spare in your command, who will scout the country about Edgesfield and arrest all stragglers. Should you pick up men belonging to General Knipe's or General Johnson's division, you will turn them over to the division commanders, with a statement in regard to the matter; and do not fail to bring to swift punishment these offenders, who are the cause of so much trouble to peaceful citizens and of so much disgrace to the cavalry command.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

LEVI T. GRIFFIN,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

PULASKI, TENN., January 2, 1865.

Adj. Gen. L. H. ROUSSEAU,
Nashville, Tenn.:

The three Missouri regiments—Forty-fifth, Forty-seventh, and Forty-eighth—have been assigned to you. The Forty-fifth is ordered to Johnsonville. Please designate which shall form the garrison of Columbia and Pulaski, and the order will be issued relieving the temporary garrison of this place. They have not got their wagons.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 2, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE,
Pulaski:

General Rousseau left here yesterday. I would suggest the Forty-seventh Missouri, being the largest regiment, be posted at Columbia and on the road beyond. A part of the One hundred and seventy-fifth who is now at Columbia, the balance being this side.

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 2, 1863.

Maj. Gen. R. H. MILROY,

Pulaski, Tenn.:

The One hundred and eightieth Ohio will join the Twenty-third Corps, upon being relieved, via Columbia and Mount Pleasant.

By command, &c.:

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 2, 1863.

Maj. Gen. R. H. MILROY,

Pulaski, Tenn.:

The One hundred and eightieth Ohio can move to Clifton or Eastport on the Tennessee River, by the shortest route. The Twenty-third Corps will be found there.

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, / HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
No. 1. / *Pulaski, Tenn., January 2, 1863.*

1. Col. Edward Anderson having been called to Nashville to attend a general court martial, Maj. W. H. Catkins, Twelfth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, is hereby placed in command of this post till further orders.

By command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. C. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PULASKI, January 2, 1863.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. MILLER,
Commanding Post of Nashville:

The major general commanding directs that no artillery be sent to General Sherman; it must remain in Nashville. If any has been shipped, and not yet beyond Louisville, you will recall it to Nashville.

ROBT. H. RAMSBY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PULASKI, TENN., January 2, 1863.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. MILLER,
Nashville, Tenn.:

Send all men for Twenty-third Corps by steamer to Eastport. The corps starts from Columbia for that point this morning.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

PULASKI, January 2, 1865.

Major-General STEEDMAN,

Decatur:

(To be forwarded by courier immediately to Courtland.)

Your telegram of 6 p. m. December 31 is received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that as soon as your cavalry returns from the pursuit of the enemy's pontoon train, your command will return to Decatur, and thence proceed to Chattanooga, as previously directed. Send back to Nashville Thompson's brigade of colored troops—consisting of the Twelfth, Thirteenth, One hundredth, and part of the Seventeenth Regiments—with all other detachments belonging in Nashville before the present movement was commenced. Answer by telegraph to Nashville upon receipt.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COURTLAND, January 2, 1865.
(Received 3d.)

Major-General THOMAS:

Your dispatch of 1st instant received. I will commence my return as soon as the cavalry and infantry, now near Tusculum, arrives here. I expect them to-day. I will send the Nashville troops, including Colonel Thompson's brigade, back from Stevenson. Will telegraph you again when the cavalry returns here.

Respectfully,

JAN. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

DECATUR, January 2, 1865.

Major-General THOMAS:

I would request that the general commanding inform something of the amount of stores which are to be sent to this point. There are no buildings here, everything having been burned or torn down. It will therefore be necessary to erect buildings in which to store the supplies. The last building which was intended to be used as a hospital was torn down by Steedman's men in half an hour.

R. S. GRANGER.

PULASKI, January 2, 1865.

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,

Decatur, Ala.:

Your telegrams of December 31, Huntsville, and from Decatur, this day, are received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that it is not his intention to place a large number of troops at Decatur, and you will therefore only construct such buildings for store-houses and hospitals as will accommodate the garrison of Decatur. You will also direct that the pontoon bridge be laid at the same point on the river that it was before Decatur was evacuated, this being the desire of the major-general commanding.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

with a loss on their side of thirty men killed and wounded. They were on the crest of a hill at Marion, and the negroes charged over upon them, and did not fire a gun until within thirty yards of the rebels. This is the first time that any of these men were under fire. Three full regiments of colored troops will leave for the Army of the James about the end of the week. Can I be authorized to send recruiting officers to Cincinnati, where there are a large number of Kent. negroes, many of whom will, no doubt, enlist? At the request of many influential men of Kentucky, I will attend the convention at Frankfort, the 4th instant. They say my presence there will do much good.

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 3, 1865—11 a. m.

Major-General THOMAS,
Pulaski, Tenn.:

General Grant directs me to say that you will not require a new outfit of teams for future operations, as no large amount of transportation will be taken with your army. He also says that there has always been an unnecessary accumulation of teams in the interior of Tennessee and Kentucky, and that these, as well as many of the troops, can be brought to the front, if required.

H. W. HALLOCK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CLIFTON, January 3, 1865—9 p. m. (Received 4th.)

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

Twenty miles above this, I met General Smith with three [sic] of his troops and four [batteries?] of his artillery going up. I brought the five transports and two barges from Eastport, and, with my gun-boats, hope to get half of Smith's artillery and all of his troops, except one division and his transportation, to Eastport to-morrow night. All was quiet there and nothing seen of the enemy, except that he was watching us from the heights over Florence, which, until I used a few shells, he seemed disposed to occupy. I will give the cover of an iron-clad at Johnsonville until it is fortified, if needed. My suggestions respecting driving Forrest and Lyon from West Tennessee to secure safe transportation on this river, should Maj. Gen. E. R. S. Canby call for naval co-operation and the consequent withdrawal of naval force from this river [sic].

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

ATHENS, January 3, 1865—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have just arrived here with my corps. Was detained two days on Milk River by the necessity of building a bridge for crossing artillery, wagons, &c., the river being impassable otherwise. On my arrival here I received your dispatch of the 1st instant, ordering the

concentration of the whole corps at Huntsville and preparations to be made for the immediate resumption of active operations. Orders will be carried out with dispatch. I will report my arrival at Huntsville and the preparations I make there. I would be glad to hear by telegraph from the commanding general whether he has any further orders. I will march from here at daylight in the morning.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(CIRCULAR.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Elk River, January 3, 1865.

Orders of the day for the Fourth Corps for today, January 3:

As soon as the bridge is completed, the corps will march, probably by noon to day. General Kimball's division will lead; then General Beatty's; then General Elliott's. Each division will in itself constitute a separate column, as for the march from Lexington, Ala., to this place, and the divisions will march with reference to trains, &c., until we arrive at the place of our destination. The pioneers will precede each division, and a good regiment will accompany each train to assist it along. The pioneers of the leading division will repair the route on the route of march, cut out new roads, &c.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

(CIRCULAR.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Athens, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Order of the day for the Fourth Corps for tomorrow, January 4:

The corps will march for Huntsville. General Beatty will lead; General Kimball will follow; then General Elliott. General Beatty will start at 6.30 a. m., General Kimball will closely follow, and General Elliott will move out the Huntsville road, following General Kimball, as soon as he reaches Athens.

By order of Brigadier-General Wood:

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Athens, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Brigadier-General ELLIOTT,

Second Division:

The general commanding directs me to say that he is surprised to learn that you have gone into camp seven miles from Athens, and that it is his desire that you hereafter march your division so that it may go into camp with the rest of the corps, unless orders to the contrary are given. He also directs that you make as long a march as you can tomorrow toward Huntsville, and that you go into camp at sundown, unless you come up with the rest of the corps before that time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Mount Pleasant, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

We have rations and forage sent to Clifton by the 7th. Some of
this sent to Spring Hill for forage had to return empty. I will be
out of forage on the 7th. We are getting along pretty well,
think will get through without serious difficulty.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires to know if the two
flags captured by your division in front of Nashville on the 15th
ember, 1864, are still in possession of your command. If so, he
wishes me to say that if you will send them to these headquarters with
name, rank, &c., of the captor he will send them to Washington.

I am, general, your obedient servant,
CLINTON A. CHILLEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Seven Miles from Mount Pleasant, January 3, 1865.

Gen. CHILLEY:

As soon as I can find those flags will send them as directed, but am
of opinion that I shall not be successful. Please say to the general
the troops are now on the ridge, with the road very badly cut up,
so as to be able to wade through. Country very poor.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HUGHES, SECOND DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Henryville, Tenn.,
January 3, 1865.

No. 3.

Capt. A. D. Harvey, Fifteenth Indiana Battery, is hereby
appointed as chief of artillery of this division. He will be obeyed
respected accordingly.

Asst. Surg. N. B. Cole, Fiftieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry,
is hereby detailed for duty as assistant surgeon in charge of the hos-
pital of this division.

By command of Major-General Couch:

S. H. HUBBELL,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

The command will continue the movement forward toward Waynesborough to-morrow morning, at 6.30 a. m., in the following order: Third Brigade, Colonel Stiles; battery; First Brigade, Colonel Doolittle; battery; Second Brigade, Colonel Casement. The rear brigade will furnish one regiment to act as rear guard and to assist the teams of the division in case of need.

By command of Brigadier-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

The command will not move to-morrow morning until rations are issued.

By command of Brigadier-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To brigade and battery commanders.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,
Louisville, Ky., January 3, 1865.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Order section Twenty-fourth Indiana Battery, Lieutenant Allen, to this place. He is in Fort Negley.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS 'TIN CLAD STEAMER FAIRY,
Tennessee River, January 3, 1865. (Received 4th.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

In my dispatch of last night I informed you that I had arrived at Clifton, and would accompany the first fleet to Eastport this morning. A few miles below Savannah I met Admiral Lee coming down, with all the transports from Eastport, to assist me in getting up. I will now have boats enough to carry about two thirds of my command with four batteries and some little transportation. Hood is reported and believed to be at Corinth; if so, my position at Eastport will not be safe, without additional re-enforcements. If we had one more corps (say the Fourth), with sufficient cavalry, we could attack, whip, and drive him from the country. I respectfully request this aid. Can you give it to me? General Croxton is at Waterloo, with about 1,500 cavalry only. Having tied up my fleet until my return, I go with Admiral Lee to Clifton, and will go to Eastport to-morrow, with all the men I can carry, and try to make a landing. There are rebels in the vicinity of Eastport, in what force could not be determined.

Very respectfully,

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

5000

NY, NW, VA, TENN., MISS., ALA., AND N. GA. (Char. Ltr)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Athens, Tenn., January 3, 1863.
Brig. Gen. J. McArthur,
Commanding First Division.

The major general commanding directs that you have one brigade of your command in readiness to embark on transports at 8 a. m. to-morrow, and the battery belonging to this brigade sent to the river landing by 11 a. m. for embarkation. The boats over to be used will be assigned by the quartermaster, Captain Brown.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier General, Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
DEPARTMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Athens, Tenn., January 3, 1863.

Col. W. L. McMillen,
Commanding First Brigade.

By direction of the general commanding, you will embark with your command on board transports to-morrow morning. The battery belonging to your command will be sent to the river by 11 a. m.; the remainder of the command will be in readiness to embark at 8 a. m. Capt. C. K. Brown, quartermaster, will assign the boats.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. H. F. RANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Athens, January 3, 1863.
Brigadier General Sherman,
Chief of Staff.

The copy of a dispatch from General Halleck to General Thomas has been received. In view of probabilities alluded to therein, I have to request that immediate orders be issued for securing 10,000 horses and all the mule and cart teams to be had. If the Cavalry Bureau cannot furnish the horses at Eastport in fifteen or twenty days, authority should be obtained from the Secretary of War to purchase in Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. The magnitude of the interests at stake would warrant it. If authority can be obtained, I will send Johnson and Kuiper at once north of the Ohio. Please request the general to stir up the Quartermaster-General and the Secretary of War.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Athens, Ala., January 3, 1863.
Capt. B. B. CARLINO,
Chief Quartermaster, Cavalry Corps, High Street, Nashville:

Get the corps, division, and brigade flags without delay. Have all supplies of everything sent to Eastport. I will leave here day after to-morrow.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier Major-General.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Athens, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Capt. LEVI T. GRIFFIN,
Adj. Asst. Adj. Gen., Cavalry Corps, High Street, Nashville:

Tell General McCook to take 300 extra horses, if he can get them. I
will direct Croxton to make out reports as soon as I reach him.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
FIELD ORDERS, } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
No. 2. } Huntsville, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. J. Alexander, assistant adjutant-general, Seventeenth
Army Corps, is relieved from duty with this command, and will report
for orders to the headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi,
Nashville, Tenn.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

JOHN N. ANDREWS,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

Brig. Gen. B. M. McCook,
Comdg. First Division, Cavalry Corps, Mil. Div. of the Miss.:

GENERAL: On Colonel La Grange's arrival you will march with all
serviceable men of your command ready for the field to Waterloo, on the
Tennessee River; from there you will be ferried across the river to
Eastport. If possible, your wagons will follow the command; if not, they
will be sent to Clifton, on the Tennessee River, and taken from [there]
to Eastport by boat. If the teams can travel with the troops, it will
be best; if the condition of roads prevent carrying loads, the property
of the division must be sent by boats from Nashville to Eastport, and
the wagons used to carry light loads of forage.

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

LEVI T. GRIFFIN,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. H. MITCHELL, Tullahoma:

General Thomas directs that you permit the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry
to come to Nashville, as requested by General Knipe.

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
No. 2. } Tullahoma, January 3, 1865.

II. Col. William Forbes, Forty-second Regiment Missouri Volunteer
Infantry, is hereby placed in command of this post, and he will enter
upon his duties without delay. He will receive of Major Calkins, the
former commandant, the records and papers pertaining to the post.

DECATUR, *January 3, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. D. WHIPPLE:

General Steedman and his command will be here to-morrow, and leave immediately on the cars for Chattanooga. His withdrawal from here leaves us uncovered, with only 600 infantry for garrison. The cavalry was all ordered to Huntsville by Major-General Wilson. I feel no immediate apprehension for the safety of the post, but think re-enforcements should be sent here. The fortifications are much out of repair, and could not be held against any considerable force. The work at this post will be considerable if we are to prepare for a large amount of supplies. There is now no cover whatever.

R. S. GRANGER,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, January 3, 1865.

Brig. Gen. S. MEREDITH, *Commanding, &c., Paducah, Ky.:*

SIR: In reply to your communication of the 31st ultimo, inquiring whether Columbus, Ky., has been transferred to the District of West Tennessee, by direction of General Orders, No. 288, of November 28, 1864, I have the honor to inform you that the order cited does not affect that post, but that it remains under the command of the officer commanding the Military District of the State of Kentucky. All troops east of the Mississippi River, up to the mouth of the Ohio, are subject to the orders of Major-General Canby, commanding Military Division of West Mississippi.

I am, &c.,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEXINGTON, KY., *January 3, 1865.*
(Received 10.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Major-General Burbridge has just returned from a most successful expedition in Southwestern Virginia. I have taken from him several regiments of colored troops which he has raised and sent them to the Army of the James. In this operation he has thrown his whole influence, which is very great in Kentucky. The colored troops are to be formed into a corps with the Army of the James, and I know of no officer who deserves the command of that corps more than General Burbridge. There are a large number of U. S. prisoners at Selma. Give General Burbridge authority to take 5,000 mounted men, and he will quietly move through Cumberland Gap and undoubtedly release these prisoners and restore them to their homes.

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY,
Lexington, Ky., January 3, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit for your information copies of letters from George D. Prentice, of Louisville, to Hon. E. M. Bruce,

will, I believe, fall back on the enemy at Chattanooga and open the way through East Tennessee to this place. We hear heavy firing in this city, and no doubt they are doing a little work in that direction.

I don't think Grant can do anything with Uncle Bob till he gets a man to help him, which, I fear, is Sherman's object in going to the West. If, however, Sherman does, Hood in Kentucky and Price in Missouri, we will be able to do them much damage. The people have recovered from the panic occasioned by Sherman's move, and are now tolerably cheerful.

I should have remarked, when talking about what Prentice says, that he further remarked that the people of Kentucky were looking with the profoundest interest to Hood's move, and much desire that he should enter the State. I have not heard a word from home since you left.

I am expecting a letter every day. I received yours of the 24th inst., and was glad to hear of your gallantry and good luck in escaping unhurt. I again caution you about exposing yourself, as you can never get promotion among the Dukes and Breckinridges. I would do nothing but duty, and nothing more. If you will recollect, no man has ever noticed for gallantry either by Morgan, Breckinridge, or Duke, who has not come from Lexington or thereabouts. I don't think I will have any respect for any such men.

We have been much engaged in Congress discussing in secret sessions a grave question; we will get through it to-day, and then our sessions will be more open and interesting to the public. The negro question I regard as being settled, as there are but few who favor putting him in the army as soldiers. There is a determination upon the part of all officials now to put every man into the field, and a great desire on the part of Hood to go to Kentucky, as it is believed he will get a large army there. Should he go there I shall immediately go home and try and get up a command. I have some arrangements to get up a brigade which I think I can. I have some young men who will assist me who are so resolute that they can raise a company or companies. I am sure I can get up the wind. If we go to Kentucky there will be the greatest battle ever known under the sun.

I send this by "C. D. K.," whom you will remember as the "Confederate" correspondent. I will write you again, when an opportunity offers. On yesterday Ould, the commissioner of exchange, proposed (unsuccessfully) to get Mike exchanged. I hope to get him out by the 1st of January. I have now said all I know.

Yours,

J. H. CLEMMONS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HQRS. FIRST DIV., MIL. DIST. OF KY.,
No. 3. } *Lexington, Ky., January 3, 1865.*

7. Col. T. D. Sedgewick, One hundred and fourteenth U. S. Colored Infantry, with his regiment, will proceed without delay to Virginia, viaarkersburg, W. Va., and report to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler for duty. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.
By command of Brig. Gen. E. H. Hobson:

J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

In particular cases, where you are fully satisfied of the character of the parties, they may be permitted to take the amnesty oath; but even then they should be paroled not to leave a particular locality.

H. W. HALLBROOK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *January 4, 1865—10 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLBROOK,
Washington, D. C.:

I send the following dispatch from General Steedman, Courtland, received this evening, for your information:

Colonel Palmer's guide, left by him at Bull's Mountain, reports that Palmer burned the enemy's pontoon train, and had gone toward Pikeville to destroy a train of 600 wagons, intending to return by Danville road. A scouting party from my advance at Leighton found enemy's cavalry in strong force near Russellville. A deserter reports that Hood has been ordered back to Cherokee, and thence to Tusculum.

I have also received a dispatch from General Granger, at Decatur, of this date, in which he says that he learns from two negroes, just come in from Tusculum, that Hood's army passed through that place in a deplorable condition on Christmas day, many of the men being without arms. They saw but eight pieces of artillery—four with Stewart's and four with Stevenson's divisions. They say, also, that they understood the railroad had been cut between Tusculum and Florence, and that Hood was making for some springs in Mississippi, which they call Pond Springs. I have had reports from General Smith, who will probably reach Eastport this afternoon, and also from General Croxon, who is at Waterloo. General Schofield is now on his way to Eastport. General Smith informs me that the reports he has had are to the effect that Hood is at Corinth. I will start for Eastport immediately upon the arrival of my wagons at this place, probably on Saturday, the 7th instant.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

FLAGSHIP FAIRY,
Clifton, January 4, 1865.

Major-General THOMAS:

Many and hearty congratulations on the various summary of your successes this campaign in your telegram of 29th, received at Eastport last eve. Foggy weather and a rapidly falling river prevented my reaching and destroying Hood's pontoons at Bainbridge, six miles above Florence. Escaped prisoners say the rebels declared the gun-boats could not get over the shoals to their pontoon bridge. Hood crossed at Florence last fall, using the bridge piers to secure his pontoons. General Jackson's three crossings were, at the military ferry, Carp's Creek, one mile below Florence, or at Melton's Bluff, twelve miles above Big Mussel Shoals and thirty-six miles above Florence, and at Deposit, 120 miles above Florence. Bainbridge was not a regular ferry, and my clever pilot thought the water was too swift there for a crossing. Hood must have been sorely pushed to have resorted to such a place on the shoals. I broke up his ferry at Garner's, Cane Creek, twelve miles

below Florence. Hood will probably never venture north of the Tennessee again. My officers and men will be highly gratified, as I am, your acknowledgment for the cordial co-operation of the navy during the last thirty days.

S. P. LEE,
Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 4, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

The corps arrived in this vicinity this evening, and it will be encamped near this place to-morrow morning, on suitable ground in reference to sanitary and other conditions. Requisitions will be at once made for all supplies necessary to meet your views in reference to coming events, and an officer will be sent to Nashville at once with requisitions for the supplies, and I respectfully request that General Donaldson be directed to fill the requisition as soon as presented and send the supplies to this place without delay. The bridge over Pain Rock being destroyed, I will send a regiment to that place to-morrow to assist in crossing supplies, &c., over the creek.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Indian Creek, Ala., January 4, 1865.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL,
First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you march at 6.30 a. m. to-morrow for Huntsville. Your division will lead, General Beatty's will follow. An officer will meet you out of Huntsville, to show you where you will camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Indian Creek, Ala., January 4, 1865—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General ELLIOTT,
Second Division:

The general commanding directs that you march for Huntsville to-morrow at 6.30 a. m. A staff officer will meet you out of Huntsville, to show you where your camp will be. Generals Beatty and Kimball will camp on Indian Creek to-night. General Beatty is now going into camp, and they will start in the morning at 6.30. Corps headquarters will be in Huntsville to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *January 1, 1863—10 p. m.*

Major Gen. A. J. SMITH,
Eastport, Miss.

Your telegram of 3d instant just received. The major general commanding directs me to say in reply, that Major General Schofield's corps is now on its way to Eastport to reinforce you. The engineer will be ready to embark at Clifton on the 6th. The entire cavalry command has also been ordered to concentrate at Eastport, probably on the 7th instant.

R. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant General.

ROYAL ORDERS, 1st HIGHER DETACHMENT, ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
No. 3. *Clifton, Tenn., January 1, 1863.*

Major Gen. Thomas Killey Smith, U. S. Volunteers, having reported these headquarters for duty, is hereby assigned to, and will at once assume command of, the Third Division, Detachment Army of the Tennessee. Col. J. H. Moore, now commanding the Third Division, hereby relieved from such command, and will report to Brig. Gen. K. Smith for assignment. In relieving Colonel Moore the major general commanding desires to express his high appreciation of the thorough and soldierly manner with which he has executed the trust confided to him in this command.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith:

J. HUGHES,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Clifton, Tenn., January 1, 1863.

Major W. R. MARSHALL,
Commanding Third Brigade:

SIR: You will put your command in readiness to embark forthwith. There are two gun-boats that will hold 400 men each without any transshipment. You will load these boats with the portion of your command that the boats will contain, and as fast as transportation can be procured embark the remainder of the command.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. McArthur:

W. H. F. RANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Athens, Ala., January 1, 1863.

Major Gen. WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

Detachments of Fifth Division, in West Tennessee and Kentucky, have not yet been returned to duty with their division, notwithstanding repeated requests of General Hatch. Men from every regiment

[To General.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, Savannah, December 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEDELL,

Quartermaster General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of the 10th (15th) instand, I beg to inform you that I have referred the same to Brig. Gen. L. C. Easton, chief quartermaster, who will report fully to you in respect to all matter within his department connected with our recent march. As you say my marches have demonstrated the great trouble that armies, even of vast magnitude, are not tied down to forage. In almost any quarter of the South armies of from 20,000 to 30,000 men could find forage, save to find near their route forage of some kind or other for their animals. It is a physical impossibility to supply an army with forage, and you do perfectly right in demanding that each army should provide itself with its forage and a large proportion of its provisions. In the interior of Georgia we found an abundance of the best kind of corn and fodder, and even here on the sea-board we find an abundance of rice in the straw, which our animals eat with avidity and seem to like. It will not be long before we shall rally forth again, and I feel no uneasiness whatever on the score of forage. You may use my name in any circular addressed to the quartermasters of the army to the effect that every part of the Southern country will support their animals by a judicious system of foraging. More animals are lost to your department whilst standing still hitched to their wagons, than during the long and seemingly hard marches into the interior. I beg to assure you that all my armies have been abundantly supplied by your department, and I am sometimes amazed at the magnitude of the operations. I think I have personally aided your department more than any general officer in the service, by drawing liberally from the money, thereby impairing him financially, and to the same extent helping ourselves; and you may always rely upon my cordially co-operating with any system you may establish. General Easton is now endeavoring to reduce to a system of accountability of captures; but so long as we keep our horses and animals well up, and prevent as far as possible the appropriation of public property to private use, I take it for granted you will pardon any mere departure from the established rules of accountability. I want nothing in the way of horses or transportation, and would merely ask from time to time a few artillery horses of a size and weight which cannot be found in this country; at present we need none, as I do not propose to increase my artillery arm; but as I have 400 or 500 miles more to march before spring, it might be prudent to reserve for us 400 or 500 good artillery horses. If my cavalry cannot recruit itself in the country I may go afoot.

Thanking you for many expressions of confidence and respect, I am, as ever,

Your friend and servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,

Major General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Eastport, Miss., January 21, 1865.

Respectfully referred to Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, for report as to the practic-

ity of obtaining forage for his horses between Pulaski and the Tennessee River while in the recent pursuit of Hood's army; also during a march from Athens to Eastport.
By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Second Informant.)

HIGHER CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Greenville Springs, Ala., February 6, 1865.
Respectfully returned. Attention invited to the letter herewith.
J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

(The General.)

HIGHER CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Greenville Springs, Ala., February 6, 1865.
Brigadier-General Whipple:

SIR: I have the honor to repeat for the information of the major-general commanding that during the pursuit of Hood's army and the march from Athens to this place, it was with the greatest difficulty that forage could be obtained in sufficient quantities to keep the horses of the command in marching condition. From this scarcity, the percentage loss was very great, both from actual starvation and diseases partly induced thereby. If the command could have taken time to search for and secure forage during the march, it could have been found, but in that event but the damage would have been inflicted on the enemy. In districts not worked over by contending armies commands of cavalry marching rough them for the first time experience but little difficulty in finding forage. But 10,000 or 15,000 horses can consume the surplus of a very rich district in an incredibly short time. No system depending upon the enemy entirely can be devised for keeping and feeding a cavalry force, and therefore depots of grain and hay must be provided when cavalry is to be put upon a basis of thorough sufficiency, rations is necessary, proper, and effective during the progress of a campaign, but is always expensive through the fact that it gives license to the men and overwork to the horses. Whenever cavalry is to rest and recuperate, the quartermaster's department should furnish the necessary supplies.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

J. P. O'CONNELL,

Commanding Pontoon Train, Decatur.

Remain where you are until you receive orders from these headquarters.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

RECEIVED

WAR DEPARTMENT,
January 5, 1863.

Capt. J. C. VAN DEZER:

(Care of Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas, Nashville, Tenn.)

The following item is taken from the Richmond papers of to-day:

Hood heard from at last. An official dispatch from General Hood, dated Corinth, December 26, was received at the War Department last night. General Hood states that the army has recrossed the Tennessee River, without material loss since the battle in front of Nashville.

THOMAS T. BUCKERT,

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, THE HON. DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 3, Nashville, Tenn., January 5, 1863.

* * * * *
II. Col. A. J. Mackay, chief quartermaster, having reported from Chattanooga at these headquarters, Lieut. Col. William G. Lee Due is hereby relieved from duty as acting chief quartermaster of the armies in the field in Middle Tennessee, and will resume his duties under Special Orders, 317, War Department, or Board of Examinations for Quartermasters.

III. Brigadier-General Johnson, commanding Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, will proceed with his command to Pulaski, Tenn., and take post with his headquarters at that place.

* * * * *
VI. Brig. Gen. Edward M. McCook, commanding First Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, will proceed with his command, via Pulaski, Tenn., to Eastport, Miss., reporting to Brevet Major-General Wilson at that place.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant General.

NASHVILLE, January 5, 1863.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,

Huntsville:

Send a brigade to Decatur to re-enforce the garrison of that place. When the corps moves you can withdraw the brigade.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, January 5, 1863.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,

Huntsville:

The pontoon train at Elkton has been ordered to report to you as soon as the troops and trains of the Fourth Corps have passed. Please have it repaired, refitted, and prepared to accompany your column on next campaign.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Brigadier General KIMBALL:

The general commanding directs that you send out forage parties, with sufficient guard, for the purpose of procuring forage for the animals of your command, in the direction of New Market and Fayetteville, or in such other directions as your information will lead you to think that forage can be obtained. Nothing must be taken by these foraging parties but forage for animals.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. N. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Elliott and Beatty.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Brigadier General ELLIOTT,

Commanding Second Division, Fourth Army Corps.

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you send a regiment to Pulaski to-morrow, for the purpose of escorting the artillery and artillery train of this corps, which was left at that place, to Huntsville. Let the regiment report to Major Goodspeed, chief of artillery, Fourth Corps, who will leave here at about daylight to-morrow morning for Pulaski, and who will call for it at your headquarters on his way. The regiment will take two days' rations, and leave behind in camp all harnessed men and those who cannot make the march.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. N. FULLERTON,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Huntsville, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. N. FULLERTON,

Chief of Staff, Fourth Army Corps.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following for the information of the general commanding the corps: In compliance with orders of the 3d instant, I made a forced march of twenty-three miles on the 4th; delayed and my division much harassed by the supply trains of the First and Third Divisions, which I was directed to follow. The censure of the general commanding, implied in the communication referred to, if the facts were known by him, would not have been given; and as I am informed by him that the instructions to march my division until sundown were not directed by the general commanding, it is proper that he should know that his instructions to me were exceeded by the assistant adjutant-general of the corps. The staff officer from headquarters of the corps instructed to assign my division to its camp on the 5th did not halt my column until it had passed beyond the ground designated, and then could give me no information as to the facilities for obtaining water for my troops. After examining the

country for some distance in the locality designated, I had to encamp my command for the night until I could leave time to make further examination.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. ELLIOTT,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL
FIELD ORDERS,
No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Wagonersburg, Tenn.,
January 3, 1865.

1. Brig. Gen. N. C. McLean, U. S. Volunteers, will report to Maj. Gen. D. S. Couch, commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, for assignment to duty.

By command of Major-General McIntosh.

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wagonersburg, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. S. Couch,

Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps.

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that it is doubtful whether your supply train will get up to-morrow, and you had better remain in camp until further orders, as it is not desirable that you should move before your supplies arrive, or it is certain that they may be at Elletts. Please inform these headquarters when your train gets up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHEELER,

Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MAJ. GEN. and MAJOR-GENERAL,
Elletts, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Maj. William B. Fitch,

Chief Inspector Cavalry, War Department.

MAJON: I inclose for your information a copy of a communication to General Whipple in regard to the reorganization of the cavalry for the cavalry reorganization.* As you will see, it was written under the impression that we should be allowed the privilege of going into winter quarters and completing the work systematically. Since it was written the indications are that this will (and) be allowed, and, therefore, what is done must be done quickly. I have, therefore, suggested to General Thomas the propriety of sending the dismounted brigade north of the Ohio River, with authority from the Secretary of War, if it can be obtained, to impress what horses may be needed and seems to me the Government can a great deal better afford this measure than to allow us to go into the field without the cavalry of

* See p. 479.

with it poorly mounted. As Johnson's division was organized with a view to its being left for the defense of the country north of the Tennessee, it might be dismounted entirely and its horses turned over to the other troops, provided, however, any troops are necessary north of the Tennessee; but Upton's, Knipe's, and Hatch's divisions should be supplied with as little delay as possible, even if active operations do not begin before spring. The sooner the horses are in the hands of the men the sooner they can be turned to the service. I have written fully to Major Chambliss in regard to this matter, but I would suggest to you that as soon as the corps can be concentrated at Eastport all the horses required should be sent to that point by steamboat, for in that case I shall be able to concentrate the men of the corps and establish the divisions and brigades. Please inform me, at Eastport, what chance there is of securing the Spencer carbines for the entire command, and how fast, under an extraordinary pressure, the horses can be furnished. The recent campaign has been very severe upon our horses, many of them having been selected from broken down horses of previous campaigns, and all having been subjected in this to hard work and poor feed. The grease heel and hoof rot are again making their appearance. The disease seems to be the same in different forms; attacks officers' horses, as well as those of the men, and no amount of care will prevent it. I have lost three valuable animals myself, notwithstanding the careful treatment they have habitually received. I attribute the disease to overwork, mud roads, and corn, without proper corn or other long forage. You will be glad to know, however, that the services of the cavalry under its organization have been commended in the highest degree by General Thomas, and justly warrant us in hoping that its future career will prove the wisdom of the measures already instituted for its benefit. During the campaign twenty-two guns, eight battle flags, and nearly 5,000 prisoners were taken by it from breast works and in open field fights with the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brig. Major-General.

HUGHES, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Athens, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Maj. WILLIAM T. CHAMBLISS,
Special Insp. Gen., Mil. Div. of the Mississippi, Louisville, Ky.:

MAJOR: I inclose for your information a copy of a letter addressed to General Whipple upon the supposition that we should be permitted to go into winter quarters and get ready for spring operations.* Since then the indications are that this will not be permitted, and that we may be called upon for active operations at any day. In view of this contingency, I would like to have Upton's division got ready as soon as possible, and after it Knipe's; Johnson's division, having been organized for the defense of the country north of the Tennessee River, may be supplied last. Fearing that operations may be precipitated upon us before the Bureau, in the regular course of business, could supply all the horses necessary, I have suggested to General Thomas the propriety of sending the dismounted men north of the Ohio River, with authority from the Secretary of War to impress horses. During the recent cam-

* See p. 429.

paign the horses of this command have been very hard worked and poorly fed. Grease hool is again making its appearance and disabling quite a large number. I am, however, trying to save them by sending those infected, as well as those that are sore backed or otherwise disabled, to Nashville. I have directed Captain Wilson and Colonel Min to push forward the erection of stabling with the greatest possible rapidity, in order that these animals may receive what, in humanity, well as in economy they are entitled to—good treatment, shelter, and proper food. By these means, with the proper vigor on the part of the officers charged with the duties, 6,000 to 8,000 horses ought to be ready by the 1st of April. As soon as the stables are ready I will get every horse that is worth it into them.

I see by the papers that Captain Irwin advertises daily sales broken down cavalry horses, and am told that those of the class which are turned into harness are sold almost by hundreds daily. It seems to me that the public's expenditure of money in securing the proper care for horses which are worn down by overwork, ill use, and short feed would save many valuable animals to the service and much expense to the Treasury. The corps will be concentrated at Eastport as soon as it can march there; and in case more horses than enough for Upton's division can be obtained they might be sent directly to that point by steam-ho. Hatch will require 2,000 to 3,000; Knappe, from 3,000 to 4,000; Johnson wants to be supplied in the usual way. It is my intention, however, to take every man, whether mounted or dismounted, into any campaign which may be inaugurated south of the Tennessee. I also wish to solicit your active cooperation in securing Spencer carbines for the whole command. The reasons are too well known to you to require recital at my hands. I am sure, too, from the active and most efficient measures which you have adopted in remounting and arming the command, you will do all in your power to assist in the completion of the work. Please write to me, at Eastport, what chance there is of getting the carbines, and how soon, under the pressure of an impending campaign whose completeness depends upon the cavalry, you will probably be able to supply the demand for horses.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brig. Major General, Commanding

HOGS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

Athens, Ala., January 3, 1865

Brig. Gen. ROBERT S. GRANTON,

Commanding District of Northern Alabama;

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday in regard to the detachments of cavalry serving in your district. Having carefully considered the subject, I cannot consent to the proposition you make in reference to the Second Tennessee, for by so doing it will separate that regiment permanently from the division to which it has been assigned. It and detachments Indiana regiments ought to be returned to duty with their respective regiments and divisions. The reckless and ill advised system of scattering the cavalry of this military division in small squads over the country has been productive of more harm than good. It is only by breaking down such a system and concentrating the cavalry into proper brigades and divisions that we can ever hope to regenerate the cavalry service.

in the West. To this end I have assigned every regiment to a division and am endeavoring to get the divisions together. If successful in this I hope to be able to effectually dispose of the enemy's cavalry, clean out guerrillas, and lend the proper co-operation to the general operations of the infantry. To leave the broken up and demoralized detachments which are in your district in their present condition would invite rather than repel such operations as you anticipate on the part of Roddey's command; but, in pursuance of the instructions of General Thomas, a division of three brigades, under the command of General Johnson, has been organized for the purpose of looking after the country between Decatur, Chattanooga, and Nashville. If the regiments which belong to it can ever be got together, they will be fully able to accomplish all that may be required of them. The Fifth Tennessee and the Fifteenth Pennsylvania form the Third Brigade of this division, and, when united, ought to make a force of 1,000 good cavalry.

Finally, general, you must allow we cannot overcome the rebels or protect our own lines of communication by remaining on the defensive in block houses. The only sure way of our disposing of the rebellion is to excel the rebels in the power of offense and in the capacity to use this power. Cavalry, you know as well as I do, properly organized, is essentially the element of mobility in an army, the arm with which to inflict injury on the enemy's communications. The performance of the cavalry in the recent campaign entitles it to a separate existence and organization. It must be got together, or it cannot be organized. I hope you will give me all the assistance in your power, and in return I assure you no effort will be spared to rid the country of guerrillas as well as regularly organized cavalry.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTHERN ALABAMA,

Decatur, January 5, 1865.

MAJ. GEN. J. H. WILSON,

Comd'g Cavalry, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: You certainly misunderstand me. I do not desire to retain the detachments of Indiana cavalry, referred to in your note just received, only recently mounted on broken-down horses without instructions and badly disciplined. They can in their present condition be of but little service anywhere. I cheerfully give them up. But the Second Tennessee is not likely to invite a raid from Roddey's cavalry, and could be of excellent service to me, and I regret you do not find it expedient to permit them to remain.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. GRANGER,

Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I omitted to state that the cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Prosser is still absent with Major General Steedman. It will be ordered to report to you as soon as it returns.

R. S. G.,

Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.] HQRS. CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Athens, Ala., January 5, 1865.

Commanders of divisions and independent brigades will have their quartermaster's wagons, ambulances, and batteries across the Elk River before to-morrow night (6th), in order to avoid trouble which a rise in the river would cause in crossing the river.

By order of General Wilson:

HENRY E. NOYES,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Inspector-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 5, 1865.

Major-General MILROY,
Tullahoma:

If the One hundred and eightieth Ohio has not started send it by cars to this place to join its corps by the way of the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers.

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

TULLAHOMA, January 5, 1865.

Col. W. WARNER,
180th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Pechert:

Get your regiment in readiness to join your corps at Eastport, Miss., via Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad to Nashville, and thence by way of the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers. Give these headquarters the number of men, so that train can be ordered.

By command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CHAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECATUR, ALA., January 5, 1865.—7 p. m.

(Received 6th.)

Major-General THOMAS:

I have just arrived here. Colonel Palmer arrived at Courtland to-day. He captured Hood's pontoon train of 120 wagons and 180 wagons of supplies and 150 prisoners. The trains were burned and the horses and mules were mostly killed. He followed the trains to the Mississippi line. I leave for Chattanooga by steamer to-night; the troops follow by rail in the a. m. Colonel Thompson will proceed to Nashville direct.

JAS. B. STEDMAN,
Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Athens, Ala., January 5, 1865.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,
21 High Street, Nashville:

Telegram received. Say to General Thomas that I will make arrangements for leaving Johnson in Tennessee with a sufficient force of cavalry for the purpose indicated. Ask him also to stir up the horse

Department. Harry Upton's arrangements and Knipe's. Johnson will have to be mounted last. I shall leave here on the morning of the 7th. Send out all the detachments, mounted or dismounted, that belong to Hatch's and Hammond's commands; also the men of the Seventh Ohio and Fifth Iowa, as I shall probably transfer these regiments out of the Sixth Division, and the Fifth Tennessee to it. Let me know how the stables are progressing, and what measures are being taken to collect the broken-down horses in pasture in Tennessee and Kentucky. See that no horses are sold by Captain Irvin that can be recuperated. I have written and telegraphed to everybody for the horses that are needed to remount us. They can be more easily delivered at Eastport than elsewhere. Tell Carling to exert himself to secure good mules, good transportation, and a supply of ambulances.

J. H. WILSON,

Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,

Widow King's, near King's Ford of Town Creek, January 5, 1865.

Major Mox,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report my arrival at this place at 3 o'clock this morning. I destroyed the entire pontoon train of the enemy, consisting of 80 boats and about 200 wagons, near Nauvoo, Mo., and captured all the mules except what the drivers were able to take off on. The train was a badly equipped one, and I regretted that the presence of two brigades of the enemy's cavalry between my force and our lines prevented me from bringing it off. From Nauvoo I went on to Hawamba County, Miss., and captured and destroyed, on the Indian road, a supply train of General Hood's of 100 wagons with the mules. On returning I found the enemy's cavalry, under Armstrong, Toddey, and Russell, disposed to prevent my egress. I evaded them by crossing from the vicinity of Hoxar to the toll gate on the military road; thence, via Howell, to Thorn Hill, on the Hiler road, and back to Mount Hope. On the top of the mountain, six miles above Mount Hope, I encountered Colonel Russell with the Fourth Alabama Cavalry; attacked and utterly routed him, capturing his four wagons, with all his baggage and headquarters papers, and as many of his men as our three horses could overtake. I have here about 150 prisoners. My horses are much jaded.

Yours, respectfully,

WM. J. PALMER,

Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Nashville, Tenn., January 5, 1865.

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,

Decatur:

It is not intended to make a depot at Decatur, consequently no great amount of building will be requisite.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, *January 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER:

A brigade has been ordered from the Fourth Army Corps to re-enforce you.

WM. D. WHITTLE,
Brigadier-General.

HOOVER, MEMPHIS AND CHARLESTON RAILROAD DEFENSES,
Huntsville, Ala., January 5, 1865.

Lieut. SAMUEL M. KNEELAND,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Decatur, Ala.:

I have the honor to report that I visited Paint Rock bridge yesterday. The bridge is being rapidly rebuilt, and will, I think, be completed by Saturday night; the nearest builder says by Friday. This bridge is 100 yards long, forty yards out, which will be saved, leaving sixty yards to be rebuilt. I find on further investigation that my report of the loss of the bridge is substantially correct. The Fourth Army Corps has arrived here, and General Wood, who commands it, has sent a regiment there to transfer rations across the river. The corps is encamped outside of town, and thus far its presence here has not affected the administration of affairs at this post.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. LYON,
Colonel Thirtieth Wisconsin Veteran Vol. Infy., Commanding.

ATHENS, TENN., *January 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. J. AMMEN:

We have sixty men in Madisonville. The rebels fell back to Jellien. There are not more than 200, commanded by Captain Lee, of Vaughn's command.

JAS. HOWE,
Captain, Commanding Post.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *January 6, 1865.*

(Received 2:25 p. m. 7th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLOCK,

Washington:

General Wilson, commanding Cavalry Corps, asks that, in view of operations following the concentration at Eastport, immediate steps be taken to furnish him with 10,000 horses and all the Spencer carbine to be had. He says, if the Cavalry Bureau cannot furnish the horses in fifteen or twenty days, authority should be obtained from the Secretary of War to impress horses in Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. The magnitude of the interests at stake warrants it.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

General Hatch, commanding Fifth Cavalry Division, Military Division of the Mississippi, requests authority for Second, Third, Sixth, Seventh, and Ninth Illinois Cavalry to recruit in their respective State. Will you permit it?

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *January 6, 1865—10 p. m.*
(Received 2.10 p. m. 7th.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. HALLER, *Washington, D. C.:*

The following dispatch, received from General Steedman to-day, is forwarded for your information.*

Have no further reports from any of the commands to-day.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 6, 1865.

Brigadier-General WHITTLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have not received nor heard anything of the instructions referred to in your dispatch of the 1st instant from Pulaski as having been sent to me, though I have telegraphed to you since my arrival here about them. I should be glad to be furnished with these instructions at once, as without them I am totally ignorant of the commanding general's wishes and instructions.

I am, yours, respectfully,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

NASHVILLE, *January 6, 1865.*
(Received 11 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WOOD:

A report has been received that the rebel General Lyon crossed the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad between Decherd and Elk River bridge. He was going in the direction of Larkinsville or Huntsville, with the intention of trying to cross the Tennessee River. The major-general commanding directs that you keep a good lookout for him and capture and destroy his command should the report prove true.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General Wilson.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 6, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. L. ELLIOTT,
Commanding Second Division, Fourth Corps:

GENERAL: Please hold a brigade of your division in readiness to go to Decatur, Ala., to re-enforce the garrison at that place. The brigade will be transported by rail, and I will let you know when to move it to the depot.

Respectfully, &c.,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

* See Steedman to Thomas, 7 p. m. 5th (p. 520), omitting all after the words "Mississippi line."

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 6, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. L. ELLIOTT,
Commanding Second Division, Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Send the brigade to the depot at once. The train is waiting there prepared to take it to Decatur.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General of Volunteers, Commanding.

[JANUARY 6, 1865. For General Wood's address to officers and soldiers of the Fourth Army Corps, see Part I, p. 439.]

CIRCULAR.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Waverlyborough, Tenn., January 6, 1865.

The major general commanding desires to impress upon the officers and soldiers connected with these headquarters the necessity and propriety of refraining from committing depredations upon the property of citizens, particularly where headquarters are established. Such property as may be required by the troops, and for the use of animals attached to headquarters, will be seized by the proper officers and accounted for, and all unauthorized foraging and plundering will be severely punished. It is hoped the officers and soldiers about headquarters will set an example worthy the emulation of all the other troops, and consider the premises upon which headquarters may be established as under the special protection of the major general commanding.

By order of Major-General Schofield:

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Waverlyborough, Tenn., January 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your supply and forage trains will probably reach you some time to-morrow, though not until quite late in the day. After they arrive you may continue your march to Clifton, and General Ruger will follow you. There is no reason for special haste. There are no boats, provisions, nor forage at Clifton, and one division of General Smith's troops is still there awaiting transportation. Whatever we have will be equally distributed among the divisions, and we have to economize as much as practicable. I will go to Clifton to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

ATHENS, January 6, 1865.

Major BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Direct Generals Lang and McCook to send in a list of such regiments of their commands as they wish to have filled up. I have requested authority for Upton's regiments. As soon as these lists are in give them to General Thomas, with request that these regiments may be filled up. Tell Green that 271 horses leave here to-morrow for Nashville. I am glad to know he is making such efforts to recuperate broken-down stock. See General Thomas about stabling materials. Exert yourself to get all men on detached duty belonging to Hatch, Long, McCook, Upton, and Knipe, wherever they may be, sent to Eastport without delay. I have telegraphed to General Thomas about this. Tell Curling that he must find mules somewhere, and stir up everybody connected with the mule department; also to send hay, bran, and horse medicines to Eastport; without these we shall lose many horses. Where are my horses? I am almost afoot. You had better remain in Nashville until I reach Eastport.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 Nashville, January 6, 1865.

Lieut. Col. G. G. MINER,
Commanding Dismounted Cavalry:

COLONEL: Order all the mounted men of the Fifth Cavalry Division (General Hatch's) to proceed without delay to Eastport, Ala., via Columbus, Tenn., and Waterloo, Ala. Send the dismounted men to Eastport by steamer. The mounted men can accompany the wagons belonging to the Fifth Division that may be sent to Eastport.

By command of Brevet Major General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
 No. 4, } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
 Nashville, Tenn., January 6, 1865.

* * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. J. F. Knipe, commanding Seventh Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division of the Mississippi, will proceed to Huntsville, Decatur, and such other points as he may deem necessary, to collect the detachments of his division and bring them to Nashville for the purpose of equipping and preparing them for the field. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * *

By command of Brevet Major-General Wilson:

LEVI T. GRIFFIN,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, { HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 3. { MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Athens, Ala., January 6, 1865.

I. The Fifth Iowa and Seventy Ohio Cavalry are hereby transferred from the Sixth Division, Cavalry Corps, to the Fourth Division, and will proceed, under command of Colonel Garrard, to Eastport, Ala.

II. Colonel Harrison, with the Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry and the battery attached to his brigade, will proceed by the nearest route to Pulaski, Tenn. On arriving at that point Colonel Harrison will report in person to General Johnson.

III. The Sixth Tennessee Cavalry is hereby transferred from the Fourth Division Cavalry to the Sixth Division Cavalry. Its commanding officer will report without delay to Brigadier General Johnson.

IV. Brig. Gen. Edward Hatch, being unfit for field service for the present, is authorized to proceed to Nashville, and if not granted a leave of absence will report thence without delay at Eastport.

By command of Brevet Major General Wilson:

HENRY E. NOYES,

Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, { HUGHES, SIXTH DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 6. { MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Edgefield, Tenn., January 6, 1865.

I. Colonel Mix, commanding Eighth Michigan Cavalry, will move with his regiment to-morrow at daylight, crossing the river by the pontoon bridge (or by the railroad bridge, if most convenient). He will divide his command into two nearly equal bodies—one will move by the roads to the right of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, via Nolensville and Truane, to Murfreesborough; the other by the turnpike to Beard's Mill, and thence, if parties of the enemy are heard of in that direction, to Lebanon, concentrating afterward with the right wing at Murfreesborough. At Murfreesborough the command will draw rations, and being there divided into two equal detachments as before, will move by such route as Colonel Mix may think to offer the best opportunities for effecting a thorough patrol of the country. Shelbyville, the two wings concentrating at that point. From Shelbyville the command, dividing into two equal bodies as before, will move to Fayetteville, concentrating at that point, and from there to Pulaski where the whole division will presently concentrate. The object of this expedition is to pick up the many stragglers from the rebel army who are understood to be lurking in the country, particularly a regiment Tennessee cavalry under command of Lieutenant Colonel Withers which is understood to be scattered through the counties of Davidson, Williamson, Wilson, and Rutherford. The strong probability is that wherever found the enemy will be in inferior force, and they will therefore, promptly and vigorously attacked and pressed; but no force of less than one-half the regiment will be detached to operate independently. Colonel Mix will command the left wing, moving by Bear Mill. The officer commanding the right wing will be furnished with copy of this order. The wagons of the regiment will be left to follow with the remainder of the division. Special pains will be taken by officers to preserve the condition of the horses. The general commanding expects that no trooper will become dismounted on this expedition.

When the rations of the command fail provisions will be seized in the country, memorandum receipts being given. Indiscriminate pillage is forbidden. If any complaints of this character reach these headquarters, the general commanding will hold the officer of the regiment responsible.

By command of Brigadier-General Johnson:

E. T. WELLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SEVENTH DIVISION,
Camp, near Athens, January 6, 1865.

Lieut. HENRY B. NOYER,
Acting Assistant Inspector General:

LIEUTENANT: I am nearly through shoeing, and will march as ordered. My sleds were conveyed this evening to McDonald's Station, where there is a switch, and whence the hospital train can take them, as the temporary hospital is along side the track. My supply of shoes was totally insufficient, causing me much delay. I will go into town myself in the morning with a detail. Please get some nails for me, that I may finish my shoeing the other side of Elk River; my supply is exhausted.

J. H. HAMMOND,
Brig. Brigadier-General.

TULLAHOMA, January 6, 1865—12 m.

Major-General RUTHERFORD:

The rebel leader Lyon, recently from Kentucky, passed through McMinville yesterday evening with about 800 men, two pieces of artillery, a small wagon and ambulance train. They had a skirmish with Captain Chin, at McMinville, and captured some of his men. They crossed the railroad between Decherd and Elk River bridge at 2 o'clock this morning, and passed around Winchester, right and left, in two bodies. A portion of the Forty-third Wisconsin were stationed in Winchester. I had no information of them till they passed. They were well mounted and had a large number of led horses, and were going in the direction of Jarkinsville or Huntsville, and are going to try to cross the Tennessee River.

R. H. MILROY,
Major-General.

TULLAHOMA, January 6, 1865.

Maj. B. H. POLK,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My regiments are stationed as follows: Fifty-eighth New York at Stevenson; One hundred and sixth Ohio at Block-houses Nos. 20 and 35, inclusive, with reserve at Stevenson; Twenty-ninth Michigan at Cowan, Tunnel, Tantafoen, Anderson, Bass, and Block-houses Nos. 20 and 28, inclusive; Forty-third Wisconsin at Block-house No. 17 to Decherd, inclusive; Forty-second Missouri at Block-houses Nos. 14 and 16, inclusive, headquarters at Tullahoma; One hundred and fifteenth Ohio from Block-house No. 1 to Duck River bridge, both inclusive, except those destroyed by the enemy. So many of the One hundred

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 6, 1865.

M. W. P. LYON,
Huntsville:

The command of the rebel General Lyon, numbering from 500 to 800 men, passed Winchester this morning and crossed the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, going in the direction of Larkinsville, with the intention of crossing the Tennessee River. They are reported to have a large number of led horses. Please report this to General Granger, if you know of his whereabouts. The command is traveling rapidly.

B. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP NELSON, KY., January 6, 1865.

Capt. J. S. BUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Two companies Thirtieth Kentucky are now starting for Lebanon; the remainder will leave to day for points designated. No more men can be mounted here until I can get supply of horse equipments; there are none here.

S. S. FREY,
*Brigadier-General.*SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 10. } Washington, January 7, 1865.

* * * * *

51. As soon as the court for the trial of Brigadier-General Sweeney, of which Brig. Gen. William Vandever, U. S. Volunteers, is a member, has concluded its sessions, Brigadier-General Vandever will report in person to the commanding general Department of the Cumberland for assignment to duty.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

W. A. NICHOLS,
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*CITY POINT, January 7, 1865—8 p. m.
(Received 9.30 a. m. 8th.)Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Please order General Thomas, if he is assured of the departure of Hood from Corinth, to send Schofield here with his corps as little delay as possible. I would recommend at the same time the Department of the Cumberland and the Ohio be united in an department. Schofield's corps might be assembled at Annapolis, Md. Transportation can be left at Louisville, Ky., until further orders.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *January 1, 1865—9 p. m.*

(Received 3.30 a. m. 8th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck,
Washington, D. C.:

A copy of my letter of recommendations for promotion, sent on the 25th of December, 1864, was needed to-day, the first copy not having reached the hands of the honorable Secretary of War, as he telegraphs me. Two brigades of Meade's division of cavalry will leave here to-morrow for Eastport. Long's division is en route from Louisville for this place, and will immediately move forward to Eastport upon arrival here. Wood's corps (the Fourth) is concentrated at Huntsville, and is being refitted for a continuation of the campaign. Smith's and Schofield's troops will probably be concentrated at Eastport by the 11th instant. Clothing and other supplies have already been sent to Eastport for them. I hope to be able to get off for Eastport myself to-morrow.

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, FLAGSHIP FAIRY,

Eastport, Miss., *January 1, 1865—11 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Paducah, Tenn.:

Your telegram from Paducah, 31st of December, was delivered after my dispatch boat had left, on 3d instant, with one telegram from General A. J. Smith and two from me to you. General Smith is now handling about half his force on the elevated heights back of Eastport formerly occupied by the enemy and subsequently by our army. Accounts of Hood and Forrest are conflicting. Military reconnaissance yesterday to Inkwell showed that Hood and Forrest were moving south on Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Some deserters and country people say that rebels talk of making a stand at Corinth. General A. J. Smith and myself return with the transports to-day to Clifton for remainder of his artillery and troops, except one brigade, in care of part of transportation, waiting next and third trip from Clifton. I will do my best to cover and assist all army movements in this quarter and to give strong convoys from Paducah to Eastport. The military movements here, present and prospective, may cause some, but I hope not much, delay in giving conveyance. I recommend that quartermasters be ordered to send no transports without conveyance, so long as enemy are in force along or north of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. Forrest's men are annoying the Mississippi.

S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Nashville, *January 7, 1865.*

WILLIAM J. MCELLEN, Esq.,

Special Supervising Agent, U. S. Treasury Dept., Cincinnati:

SIR: The major-general commanding the department directs me to write that he is willing, and prefers, that permits to trade within the department should be granted by you, when, in your opinion, it would be proper, upon the recommendation of the district commanders, without reference to him, the department commander. It throws into his

headquarters a good number of applications, the merit of which he has not the time to investigate, and is satisfied that they should be left to yourself and the district commanders.

Very respectfully,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, 1 HQRS. DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 6. } Nashville, Tenn., January 7, 1865.

II. The detachment of the Merrill Horse, composed of 200 men, are hereby detailed for courier duty at these headquarters, and will report to Lieut. M. J. Kelly, chief of couriers, Department of the Cumberland.

IV. The reserve artillery of the Army of the Tennessee, now at this place, will report for duty, as a portion of the garrison of Nashville, to Brig. Gen. J. F. Miller, commanding the post. Maj. John Mendenhall, inspector of artillery of the Department of the Cumberland, will give all necessary instructions concerning the armament of the batteries.

VI. The One hundred and eightieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, en route to join the Twenty-third Army Corps at Eastport, will, upon its arrival at this place, report to Brig. Gen. J. L. Donaldson, chief quartermaster Department of the Cumberland, for the purpose of escorting by land a wagon train to the command of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, at Eastport. The commanding officer of this regiment will detail a sufficient number of teamsters for the train.

VII. The Forty-second Missouri Volunteer Infantry is hereby assigned to the Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps. The commanding officer will render the required reports and returns to Major-General Rousseau, commanding.

By command of Major-General Thomas:

HENRY M. CIST,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HUNTSVILLE, January 7, 1865.

General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Sent a brigade yesterday morning to Decatur. Received last night dispatch in regard to General Lyon. Will try to carry out the commanding general's wishes.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 7, 1865.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Craft is passing through here with several thousand men of Steedman's command, on the way to Chattanooga. He is using all the railroad transportation therefor. I have directed him to leave a force

at Paint Rock, Larkinsville, &c., and to scout well thereabouts to find Lyon, and destroy him, if possible. I have telegraphed your approval of this act. I have also directed General Changer to send part of the brigade I sent him up the river, and to Captain Forrest, of the gun-boat, to patrol down the river from Bridgeport, to prevent the enemy from crossing.

TIL. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, January 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood:

Your telegram of this date is received and your action as therein taken is approved. As soon as the forces of General Cuth get through the work assigned by you they will be permitted to go on their way.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

HUNTERVILLE, January 7, 1865.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Chief of Staff:

No order has been received assigning the Third and Fourth Michigan to this corps. Where are these regiments?

TIL. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., January 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Hunterville:

The Third and Fourth Michigan were assigned to your corps some time since. The regiment in charge of the pontoon train still belongs to you, and the train is intended for your corps, and of course you should furnish a regiment to take charge of it. There are no other regiments which can possibly be assigned to you.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., January 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Hunterville:

Your men are being sent from hospital to their commands as rapidly as possible. The War Department has ordered boards of inspectors and special inspectors for the purpose of examining the inmates of hospitals, with a view to sending to the field all fit for duty; and any further attempts to accomplish the same end on the part of the Department of the Cumberland only makes trouble. If you would call for them individually, and state where they are, the work of collecting them would be somewhat facilitated.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

NASHVILLE, *January 7, 1865.*Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD,
Huntsville, Ala.:

The instructions sent you were simply to prepare your corps for active operations; those are the orders from the Headquarters of the Army, and beyond that we know nothing. Get your men well clothed, and prepared for three months' campaign; take as little transportation as you can possibly get along with, and have the animals in good condition; make up all returns to date; and when you start take nothing but rations, forage, intrenching tools, a few carpenter tools for repairing, and the necessary blanks and stationery.

WM. D. WHITPLE,
*Brigadier-General.*ATHENS, ALA., *January 7, 1865.*

Brigadier-General WOOD:

Major-General Wilson directs me to telegraph you that he received a dispatch to-day at 12 m., when near Elk River, from Major-General Thomas, dated 1 p. m. 6th, stating that the rebel General Lyon had crossed the railroad between Decherd and Elk River, on his way to Huntsville or Larkinsville, it is supposed, with the intention of crossing the Tennessee River, and that he had orders to pursue him, but the distance being so great and his horses being in such poor condition, he deems it impracticable to do so, thinking the rebel commander might make his escape across the river, even if he had to swim it, before he could be overtaken. He requests that you give him any information you may receive in regard to the movements of General Lyon.

Very respectfully,

W. W. VAN ANTWERP,
*Captain and Aide-de-Camp.*HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 7, 1865.

Major-General WILSON:

The latest intelligence received of the movements of the rebel General Lyon indicated that he had crossed the railroad near Larkinsville, apparently on his way to the Tennessee River. General Craft passed through here to-day with his division, on his way to Chattanooga. I ordered him to detach a portion of his command at Larkinsville and try to capture or destroy Lyon's command. A regiment or two of cavalry would be a great assistance in doing this.

TH. J. WOOD,
*Brigadier-General of Volunteers.*HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
*Huntsville, Ala., January 7, 1865.*Captain FORREST, U. S. Navy,
Commanding Gun-boat fleet on Upper Tennessee:

The rebel General Lyon is reported moving southward, toward Gunteraville, to cross the river. General Thomas has ordered that, if pos-

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KY., SW. VA., TENN., MISS., ALA., AND N. GA. (CHAS. LYT

sible, his force be captured or destroyed. I am sending out to-day to accomplish this. Will you have the river thoroughly patrolled in every quarter where he might attempt a crossing; it will help much to catch him.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 7, 1865.

Col. J. G. MITCHELL,
Larkinsville, Ala.:

Send out vigorous scouting parties at once, and find out in what direction the enemy went; then pursue them at once, and destroy them if possible. Send the two companies of negroes to Scottsblow.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

PAINT ROCK, January 7, 1865.

Brigadier-General WOOD or GRANGER:

Do you hear anything further of Lyon? Colonel Mitchell's brigade is at Larkinsville; will hear from him soon.

CHAS. CRUFT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 7, 1865.

Brigadier-General CRUFT:

I telegraphed to General Thomas this forenoon the orders I had given to you. I have received this evening a telegram from him approving those orders, and saying that when you had done the work assigned you of cleaning out Lyon's command you could go on your way. I trust you will capture and destroy Lyon's command. Let me hear from you.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

PAINT ROCK STATION, January 7, 1865.

Brigadier-General WOOD:

Dispatch received. Will get to Larkinsville soon. Mitchell's brigade is there, and Harrison's with me; not yet heard from him. I learn that General Granger has ordered some of my trains to unload at Brownsborough. Can hear nothing of Lyon's whereabouts thus far.

CHAS. CRUFT,
Brigadier-General.

EASTPORT, MISS., January 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS,
Nashville, Tenn.:

I have landed about half my command at Eastport, and will return immediately to Clifton for the remainder. It will take yet some time

to get up the transportation. My scouts have not yet determined the exact whereabouts of Hood; reports are conflicting. I believe he is yet at Corinth. If General Croxton had furnished me a few cavalry, as I requested, I should have been advised ere this. I have sent to Cairo for coal, hay, and additional subsistence stores.

Very respectfully,

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } URBAN SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV.,
No. 1. } DETACH. ARMY OF THE TENNESSEES,
Clifton, Tenn., January 7, 1865.

I. The attention of commanding officers of this brigade is called to the fact that their men are in the constant habit of straggling at will from camp, passing beyond the picket line, and committing the grossest outrages upon citizens of the country. An instance has been brought to the notice of the general commanding of an outrage of the most heinous character committed by men of the Eighth Wisconsin Infantry. A party of scouts in the employ of the military authorities were met by these men beyond the lines, and, by means of personal violence, deprived of their arms and their persons robbed of money and valuables. The general commanding the corps has declared a purpose to visit with the strict rigor of the law all offenders who may be convicted of any violation whatever of existing orders upon the subject of straggling, marauding, and unauthorized foraging.

II. It is necessary, in order to prevent these disgraceful occurrences and preserve the name of the command, that commanding officers of regiments and the battery of this brigade take the most vigorous measures to restrain the propensities of evil-disposed among their men. They must establish regulations that will prevent straggling altogether, either from camp or when upon the march. The men must not be allowed to leave camp, except upon duty or with written permission of regimental or battery commanders, stating the purposes for which such permission is granted.

III. The matter of roll-calls must be more punctually attended to. Commanding officers must know where their men are, and every case of an absentee who is not properly accounted for must be thoroughly investigated, and a proper punishment administered for every violation of orders. Each regiment and the battery of this brigade will have a roll-call at 9 a. m., 12 m., and 3 p. m. each day, in addition to the stated roll-calls at reveille and tattoo.

IV. The indiscriminate discharge of fire arms in the vicinity of camp or remote therefrom must be stopped. All offenses of this character must receive prompt attention, and each case visited with a sufficient punishment. This order will be observed in all its provisions until it is officially revoked. It will not be considered to expire with the removal of the command from this point, but will be enforced in all its details until otherwise ordered.

By order of Col. L. F. Hubbard:

T. P. GERR,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Montgomery, Ala., December 2, 1861.

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I have been informed that Maj. L. Minns, chief quartermaster of the State of Mississippi, has been authorized by the honorable Secretary of War to superintend the exchange of Government cotton for army supplies. No official communication of such authority has ever been received by me, nor has any information reached Major Minns or myself as to the extent of his powers, nor any instructions given us to the extent of his powers, nor any instructions given us to the mode and manner of carrying out this power. The subject is a delicate one and of grave importance. Our armies in this military division are sadly in need of every description of military supplies—horses and mules for artillery and other transportation, blankets, clothing, bacon, &c., are needed. This section has been drained of these supplies. Any further drafts on its resources will materially impede, if not destroy, the productive powers of its laboring population. Even if the supplies were at hand, they cannot be obtained for want of funds. Money is needed, not only for the purchase of quartermaster and commissary stores, but it is also required for the payment of the troops. A portion of the Army of Tennessee has not been paid since the 31st of December last, *i. e.*, Stewart's corps; Cheatham's and Lee's corps, since the 30th of April last; and the cavalry, since the 29th of February last. Funds have been recently sent to pay off these arrearages in part. To meet the immediate and pressing wants of the army the subject of cotton exchange becomes of serious import. Government cotton is here, badly put up, exposed to weather, to depredation, and at times liable to capture and destruction by the enemy. This, I believe, with proper management and under proper regulation, can be used to procure from the enemy's lines all needed army supplies. The interruption of communication with the seat of Government precludes us of all hope at present of looking to that quarter as a source of supply, and another must be sought. The one above suggested presents itself as the most feasible. Lieutenant General Taylor, who was authorized to act in this matter, has, under instructions from the Government at Richmond, ceased to exercise any further authority over this subject. It is, therefore, important that some one should be intrusted with this authority, whose powers should be ample, and whose instructions should be full and clear. As it is now probably our sole source of supply I respectfully request and urge the department to take such steps as will enable us to exchange the cotton now lying useless here for such supplies and material of war as we may need. I herewith inclose a communication of Major Willis, my chief quartermaster, to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, in connection with this subject. It meets with my approval. I have no desire myself to have any connection with the supervision of contracts for exchange, but will cheerfully afford all such facilities and aid in my power to the agent selected by the Government to effect this object. My present solicitude is that some one shall be designated for that purpose, full and ample powers conferred upon him, and such clear and definite instructions given me as will best carry out the intentions of the Government, protect it against fraud and speculation, and supply the great and pressing wants of our army in the field.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

General

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,

December 26, 1861.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

H. L. CLAY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 18, 1861.

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER

What would you advise in this matter? I am now explain the impression entertained that a quartermaster had been commissioned to make purchases, and the statement that General Taylor had received instructions excluding any contract or purchase for food. I am not aware of any instructions which would warrant such a statement.

J. A. S.,

Secretary.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

In March last a letter was addressed to each of the department commanders on the subject of the act concerning trade. A limited and special control was given to the department commanders to allow contracts to be made, under the supervision of first worthy officers, and requiring the permission to be countersigned by the commander himself. Permissions were granted by General Polk to a liberal extent and by subordinate officers in his command, leading to abuse and augmenting a mischievous traffic. This was made known to the Department through inspection reports. A letter was addressed to General Taylor, 27th of September last, communicating the fact of these abuses, referring him to the act and orders, and informing him that Mr. Clapp had been appointed by the Treasury, and referring him to Mr. C. for information of the cases in which such trade would be licensed. He was also informed that but few contracts had been made; that those had not been productive, and had expired by limitation. General Taylor's circular is prior in date to this letter, and therefore his action was not affected by it. Three letters have since been addressed to General Taylor by you, in which a concurrence in his circular is expressed and his supervision of the trade recognized to be legitimate. I know of no communication from this Department to any quartermaster that would justify the making of contracts for supplies through the use of cotton.

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Assistant Quartermaster of War.

(Inclosure.)

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
GENERAL BEAUREGARD'S COMMAND,
Montgomery, Ala., December 1, 1864.

TRENHOLM,

Secretary of the Treasury, Richmond, Va.:

Quartermaster of this military division, I respectfully request sales of cotton from that now in the hands of the title-bearer of the produce loan, or any other cotton in the State of Mississippi, who has been ordered by the honorable Secretary superintendent the exchange of Government cotton for army. There is now the most pressing necessity for blankets, shoes, army, medicines, hardware, leather, horses and mules, horse, meet the immediate wants of the army. I have ascertained that payment in cotton will readily secure adequate supplies, in manner a considerable quantity of cotton—badly put up, and to the weather, and liable to be destroyed by the enemy—utilized before it becomes utterly worthless. No draft would be made upon the supplies accumulating at Richmond, but be devoted exclusively to General Lee's army. Large transportation would be saved, both forward to the war. In that extent the overburdened railroad facilities relieved, and frequent interruptions of railroad communications lessened suffering in the army, and as this may continue some time, asked that some other source of supply must be sought. Sales can be made to meet this end fully, on a basis of 10 cents for cotton in Federal currency, and invoice cost for goods, by prices current of the date, at the place of purchase, allowed, on the prime cost, to cover all expenses to the agreed delivery, and the supplies made deliverable within reach of.

Believing this proposition will be beneficial, both pecuniarily and of supplying our wants, I trust that it will meet your

Should it do so, I will cheerfully undertake any labor to full results, and enforce entire obedience to such instructions I think proper to give.

Yours, with the greatest respect,

F. WILLIS,

Chief Quartermaster, Military Division of the West.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Montgomery, Ala., December 2, 1864.

E. KIRBY SMITH,

Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

AL: You are probably aware that the Army of Tennessee, General J. B. Hood, has penetrated into Middle Tennessee as far as Columbia, and that the enemy is concentrating all his available forces under General Thomas, to oppose him. It is even reliably reported that the forces under Generals A. J. Smith, in Missouri, and Arkansas, have been sent to re-enforce Thomas. It becomes, absolutely necessary, to insure the success of Hood, either that

Department. Harry Upton's arrangements and Knipe's. Johnson will have to be mounted last. I shall leave here on the morning of the 7th. Send out all the detachments, mounted or dismounted, that belong to Hatch's and Hammond's commands; also the men of the Seventh Ohio and Fifth Iowa, as I shall probably transfer these regiments out of the Sixth Division, and the Fifth Tennessee to it. Let me know how the stables are progressing, and what measures are being taken to collect the broken-down horses in pasture in Tennessee and Kentucky. See that no horses are sold by Captain Irvin that can be recuperated. I have written and telegraphed to everybody for the horses that are needed to remount us. They can be more easily delivered at Eastport than elsewhere. Tell Carling to exert himself to secure good mules, good transportation, and a supply of ambulances.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Widow King's, near King's Ford of Town Creek, January 5, 1865.
Major Mox,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report my arrival at this place at 3 o'clock this morning. I destroyed the entire pontoon train of the enemy, consisting of 80 boats and about 200 wagons, near Nauvoo, Mo., and captured all the mules except what the drivers were able to take off on. The train was a badly appointed one, and I regretted that the presence of two brigades of the enemy's cavalry between my force and our lines prevented me from bringing it off. From Nauvoo I went on to Hawamba County, Miss., and captured and destroyed, on the Indian road, a supply train of General Hood's of 100 wagons with the mules. On returning I found the enemy's cavalry, under Armstrong, Toddey, and Russell, disposed to prevent my egress. I evaded them by crossing from the vicinity of Hoxar to the toll gate on the military road; thence, via Howell, to Thorn Hill, on the Hiler road, and back to Mount Hope. On the top of the mountain, six miles above Mount Hope, I encountered Colonel Russell with the Fourth Alabama Cavalry; attacked and utterly routed him, capturing his four wagons, with all his baggage and headquarters papers, and as many of his men as our tired horses could overtake. I have here about 150 prisoners. My horses are much jaded.

Yours, respectfully,

WM. J. PALMER,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., January 5, 1865.
Brig. Gen. R. S. GRANGER,
Decatur:

It is not intended to make a depot at Decatur, consequently no great amount of building will be requisite.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

Armstrong's brigade, which had been sent back by Forrest from Barton Station to re-enforce Roddey and protect Hood's trains at Leighton. I learned that Hood had commenced crossing the river at Dabbsbridge on Sunday morning, and finished on Tuesday evening, and that they had finished taking up the pontoon on Wednesday morning; also, that the enemy's pontoon train had passed through on Wednesday, and had camped at La Grange, four miles distant, the same night, and that it was bound for Columbus, Miss., with a comparatively small guard. Roddey's so-called cavalry had apparently been relied upon to prevent any advance of our forces until the train could get to a safe distance; but his men had become so demoralized by their successive defeats, from the time my command first advanced from Decatur and captured his artillery, that we could afford to disregard him. I accordingly started from Leighton before daylight on Saturday morning, taking a trail which enabled us to avoid Armstrong's forces and to get to the rear of a portion of Roddey's cavalry at La Grange, where we captured Col. J. M. Warren, of Tenth Alabama Cavalry, and some other prisoners.

About 1 p. m. we passed through Russellville, where we encountered another portion of Roddey's force, which had just arrived from Tusculum, and drove it out on the Tusculum road, while we kept on the Cottonville road after the train. Some attempt was made to delay us by burning a bridge over Cedar Creek, but we found it hard and caught up with the rear of the pontoon train at dark, ten miles beyond Russellville. We met no resistance, and our advance guard charged through to the front of the train, which extended for five miles, and consisted of 78 pontoon-boats and about 200 wagons, with all the necessary accoutrements, material, engineering instruments, &c. All the mules and oxen, except what the pontoons and guards were able to cut the traces of and take off, were standing hitched to the wagons. Three boats had been set on fire, but, through carelessness, it had gone out. We captured a few prisoners, and went into camp about the center of the town, fed, and then started the entire command out in either direction to burn the train, which occupied till 3 a. m. I should have been glad to bring the pontoon train, which was an exceedingly well appointed one, back to our lines; but the condition of the mules, the mountainous character of the country, and the presence in our rear of a force of the enemy's cavalry, estimated at three times our strength, prevented. I also learned from a negro servant of Captain Childs, of the engineers, who commanded the train, that a large supply train of General Hood's, bound from Barton Station to Tusculum, was ahead.

Early next morning (Sunday) I pushed on through Nanvay, taking the Aberdeen road, which I knew would flank the train. I sent a detachment from near Hexar across by a trail to head the train on the Cottonville road, and another to follow it, and by 10 p. m. had surprised it in camp, a few miles over the line, in Haystack County, Miss. It consisted of 110 wagons and over 500 mules. We burned the wagons, shot or severed the mules so could not lead off or use to mount prisoners, and started back. In one of the wagons was a column of Hood's army, badly wounded at Franklin, with whom I left a tent, some stores, and one of the prisoners to take care of him. About twenty of the teamsters were reborn soldiers captured by Hood at Dalton. These came back with us. We returned, via Toll-gate and the old military and Hacksburg roads, to within twenty miles south of Russellville, when I found that Roddey's force and the so-called brigade of Bille and Russell were already stationed at Bear Creek and on the Hexar road to retard us, while Armstrong was reported as being in pursuit.

The country was very difficult and rugged, with very few roads or trails, and scarcely any forage; but, with the aid of Union guides in Marion and Winston Counties, we evaded, by a night march of twenty-three miles, all the forces except Colonel Russell's, whom we attacked unexpectedly on the Meillon road, twelve miles beyond Thoru Hill, on Wednesday noon, routing him so utterly that he did not delay our march twenty minutes, and this only to pick up prisoners and burn his five wagons, including his headquarters wagon, out of which we got all the brigade and other official papers. We had previously captured a mail bound for Tusculum. We then continued, by way of Mount Hope, toward Leighton, but before getting there learned that all other forces had returned to Decatur, to which place we came on last evening. About seventy-five conscripts that Russell was hustling off to Tusculum were released by our attack; also eight Indiana soldiers captured by Russell near Decatur.

The whole distance marched by the command since we left the infantry at Decatur on Wednesday night, until we saw them again last evening, was about 305 miles.

My entire force was less than 600 men, consisting of the Fifteenth Pennsylvania (Anderson) Cavalry, Lieutenant Colonel Lamborn commanding, and detachments of the Second Tennessee and Tenth, Twelfth, and Thirteenth Indiana Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Prosser. To these officers, and all the men behaved gallantly and bore up uncomplainingly with very scanty rations, under the severe weather and lack of sleep.

On this expedition we took about 300 prisoners, including 12 colonels, 2 captains, and 6 lieutenants, and destroyed, in all, between 100 and 1,000 stand of arms, and captured a considerable number of pistols.

Our entire loss was 1 man killed and 7 wounded, all in the charge on Russell's command. The whole of Forrest's cavalry, except Armstrong's, was at Okolona, within one day's march of us, when the supply train was captured.

I do not think General Hood brought across at Hartsburg more than 12,000 or 13,000 infantry.

Very respectfully,

W. J. PALMER,
Colonel Tenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding.

This report always is another of the very valuable services rendered by Colonel Palmer, and I most heartily recommend him again for appointment as a brigadier general of volunteers. He certainly deserves the promotion, and I would respectfully urge it. There is no news from the other portions of my command to-day. I leave at daylight in the morning for Eastport.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, FLAGSHIP FAIRY,
Clifton, Tenn., January 2, 1865—10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Polaski, Tenn.

Your telegram of January 2, noon, Polaski, just received. I have sent Acting Fleet Captain Babcock down to arrange conveyance especially for you. Would go myself to meet you, but believe you would prefer me [to] push operations here. Schofield has arrived. I am rejoiced at your coming.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., January 3, 1865.

General J. B. Hood,
Commanding Confederate Forces:

GENERAL: I have the honor to reciprocate the courtesy shown by you to the guard left by myself at the house of Mrs. A. V. Brown, Melrose, near Nashville, in not making him a prisoner, by returning with this communication to you Private Wright, Thirtieth Alabama, a soldier of your army left at the same place when your forces retreated from the front of Nashville. Incidents of this character are by no means common, and I am free to confess I always heartily appreciate and most willingly acknowledge them when they do occur.

Very respectfully, yours,

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 3, 1865.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following special recommendation for the promotion of officers in the Fourth Corps:

First, Brig. Gen. Nathan Kimball to be major-general, for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Franklin, on the 30th Novem-

ber, for the skill, intelligence, and efficiency with which he handled his command in all the conflicts around Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December, and for the personal gallantry he displayed in those conflicts.

Second, Col. A. D. Streight, Fifty-first Indiana, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, to be brigadier-general, for the skillful manner in which he managed his brigade in the battle of Nashville, for his personal gallantry in the battle, and for his uniform good and soldierly conduct.

Third, Col. P. Sidney Post, Fifty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, Third Division, to be brigadier-general of volunteers, for gallant and meritorious conduct in the chase after Hood when he attempted to get into our rear and cut our communications, and in the retreat from Pulaski to Nashville, but especially for gallantry in the assault on Montgomery's Hill, on the 15th of December, and in the assault on the Overton Hill, on the 16th of December. Colonel Post's brigade made both of these assaults. In the latter Colonel Post was severely wounded by a grape-shot, the same discharge killing his horse under him.

Fourth, Col. Frederick Kneller, Seventy-ninth Indiana Volunteers, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division, to be brigadier-general of volunteers, for gallantry and meritorious conduct throughout the entire Atlanta campaign, for meritorious conduct in the pursuit of Hood when he attempted to cut our communications, and in the retreat from Pulaski to Nashville, but especially for gallantry and good conduct in the various conflicts around Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December.

Fifth, Col. Isaac M. Kirby, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, to be brigadier-general of volunteers, for gallantry and good conduct through the Atlanta campaign, but especially for distinguished gallantry in the battle of Franklin, on 30th of November and in the various conflicts around Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December.

Sixth, Col. Emerson Opdycke, One hundred and twenty-fifth Ohio, [to be brigadier-general of volunteers,] for uniform gallantry and good conduct, but more especially for distinguished gallantry and meritorious conduct in the Atlanta campaign, commencing with the assault on Rocky Face Ridge; the battle of Resaca, in which he was severely wounded; the assault of the 27th of June on Kenesaw Mountain, and the battle of Peach Tree Creek; for great skill, judgment, and courage at the battle of Franklin, on the 30th of November, on which occasion, by a bold counter-charge when the enemy had broken our lines, Colonel Opdycke drove him back and recaptured eight pieces of artillery which he had taken from us; for valuable services and aid in the preparations for the battle at Nashville, and for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle both on the 15th and 16th of December.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,

Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

Huntsville, January 8, 1863—11.30 p. m.

Major-General THOMAS:

I am informed by General Grainger, who is in my quarters, that Colonel Prosser, Second Tennessee, and Colonel Palmer, Fifteenth Pennsylvania, are at Decatur, but that he had ordered them to report to General Wilson, who claimed them on your authority. I wish authority to order (and if you approve, please telegraph me) them to

this place to go in pursuit of Lyon's force. Without some cavalry it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to get hold of Lyon. I would not detain Prosser and Palmer longer than absolutely necessary. I telegraphed early to Captain Forrest, at Bridgeport, to patrol the Tennessee River with his flotilla.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HIGGINS, CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Fall River, January 2, 1863.
(Via Athens. Received 12:30 p. m. 10th.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood,
Huntsville:

Your telegram is received. As Huntsville is full seventy miles from me, Lyon must either escape or be used up by Chattanooga long before any of my cavalry, in their present condition, can reach that place. I shall therefore go on to Eastport as soon as I can get rations from Athens.

J. H. WILSON,
Brig. Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 2, 1863.

Brigadier-General CROFT:

You will disembark the forces that are on the cars immediately, scour the country thoroughly, find out, if possible, where Lyon is, and go in pursuit of him. He must be found, and either destroyed, captured, or driven across the Tennessee River. General Thomas' orders on this subject are emphatic, and he says you must not go on your way till this work is finished. As soon as you have disembarked your men from the cars the trains will be sent immediately to Stevenson to bring up provisions for the troops on this line. The detention of the cars by you has nearly put us out of provisions, and they must not be detained by you while you are hunting Lyon, but must be allowed to go to Stevenson, to bring up provisions.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

LARKINVILLE, January 2, 1863.

Brigadier-General Wood:

Can get no definite information of any forces of Lyon in vicinity. Think the rumor quite doubtful. Have sent Captain Givens, with 100 mounted men, to ascertain, and will know in three hours if any force is at Maynard's Cove, or Robinson's farm, or any of the points where conflicting stories place it. I wish Colonel Malloy's command, which I left near Huntsville, shipped here.

CHAS. CRUFT,
Brigadier-General.

LARKINSVILLE, *January 8, 1865.*

Brigadier General Wood:

Reports from citizens thus far do not support rumor that Lyon is near here. Bushwhacking parties of Russell, Mead, Hayes, and Wilson are in mountain, but changing places constantly, and are usually from fifteen to twenty miles distant, along waters of Paint Rock and in vicinity of New Nashville. Cavalry scout not yet reported; have brigade ready to push out on hearing from it. The best way to clear out parties above with infantry is to start forces from New Market east, and from here and Paint Rock north, say to Robinson's or Duckett's, on Paint Rock. No direct approach will catch them. If I can get information of Lyon's whereabouts will go for him later in the day.

CHAS. CRUFT,
Brigadier General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Nashville, Ala., January 8, 1865. 12:30 p. m.

Brigadier-General CRUFT:

Your two dispatches of this date received. Lyon must certainly be in your neighborhood somewhere, either north or south of the railroad, as his course has been traced from Kentucky, by McMinnville and Manchester, to south of Winchester. Order at once the force at Brownsborough to New Market, to move thence east, to co-operate with the force moving north from Larkinsville, without you receive satisfactory intelligence that Lyon is somewhere else, in which case you must go for him strong.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Clifton, Tenn., January 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Nashville.

My advance reached this place on the 6th, and the whole command will probably arrive to day. Only a portion of General Smith's troops have yet gone up the river, and I will give him the use of all the transports until his whole command is shipped. I will then move my troops. Transports and supplies arrived last night.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, / HIGHER SECOND DIV., 2ND ARMY CORPS,
No. 5. *Near Waynesborough, Tenn., January 8, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. N. C. McLean, U. S. Volunteers, having reported to these headquarters pursuant to Special Field Orders, No. 4, headquarters Army of the Ohio, dated Waynesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1865, for assignment to duty, is hereby assigned to the Third Brigade of this division.

* * * * *

By command of Major-General Couch:

S. H. HUBBELL,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Clifton, Tenn., January 8, 1863.

Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox,

Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to direct your division quartermaster to receive and issue to the troops now here such quartermaster's stores as are arriving at Clifton.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
DEPARTMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEANS,
Eastport, Miss., January 8, 1863.

Col. E. H. Wolfe,

Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that Colonel Gilbert with his brigade will make a reconnaissance toward Iuka tomorrow; he will leave camp at 6 a. m. He directs that you send out at the same hour strong fatigue parties to work on the rifle-pits, and that all the rest of your command be kept in camp, in readiness for any emergency, until the return of Colonel Gilbert.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. COMSTOCK,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HIGHER CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Near Elk River, on Florence Road, January 8, 1863—12.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. William D. Whipple,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland, Nashville:

General Wood telegraphed from Huntsville that Lyon had crossed the railroad near Larkinsville, on the way to the Tennessee River. General Cruft had been directed to debark a portion of his force at that place and go after him. As it is seventy miles from here to Larkinsville, it will be more than useless for me to send any portion of my command in that direction, as Lyon must be safely across the river or disposed of by General Cruft before I can possibly reach him. Your telegram in regard to Johnson's division has been received. I have transferred the Fifth Iowa and Seventh Ohio Cavalry to the Fourth Division, and the Sixth Tennessee to Johnson, leaving him nine regiments, the same number that are in the other divisions, and ample for the defense of the country lying north of the Tennessee River. These transfers are made for the purpose of preparing, as soon as possible, an effective cavalry force for operations north of the main army. No men of Johnson's division, except those belonging to the two regiments just mentioned, have been ordered to Eastport. Colonel Harrison, with the balance of his brigade and battery, have been ordered to Paducah. When he arrives here he ought to have, with the Eighth Michigan and the other detachments, 1,000 mounted men—enough for any immediate use. Please say to General Thomas that, anticipating the probabilities of an early move, I have directed that the remounts be provided first

to the divisions which are intended for the field, and last to Johnson, believing this would meet his approbation. Johnson ought now to have the Fifth Tennessee, Fifteenth Pennsylvania, Sixteenth Illinois, and Eighth Michigan all mounted. Unless I have something this evening that renders it more probable than now appears we could pursue Lyon with success, I shall continue the march toward Eastport.

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 3. } MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nashville, Tenn., January 8, 1865.

The attention of commanding officers of cavalry is called to the careless and injurious manner of feeding horses. The feeding should be regular. The forage should never be fed on the ground, for, besides being wasted, the horse is liable to injure his digestion by the gravel and sand which he takes up. To remedy this every trooper will carry a nose bag, in which the grain will be given. Commanding officers of companies, regiments, brigades, and divisions will be held responsible for the execution of this order, and will immediately on its receipt make the necessary requisitions for a sufficient number of nose bags to supply their commands. Brigade inspectors will be particular in their monthly reports to show the exact number on hand in each regiment. Men losing them carelessly or purposely will immediately be furnished with others, and will be charged with the lost articles on their pay-roll, and otherwise subjected to such punishments as may seem proper to their commanding officers. One commissioned officer at least will attend each stable call, who will require the men to watch the horses until they are done feeding.

By command of Brevet Brigadier-General Wilson:

E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Near Elk River, January 8, 1865.

Division and brigade commanders will, with their columns, resume the march toward Eastport to-morrow morning. Should the detachments sent for rations not arrive the march will not be delayed, but a small party as guard will be left until they come up.

By order of General Wilson:

HENRY E. NOYES,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

EDGEFIELD, TENN., January 8, 1865.

Maj. E. B. BEAUMONT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

In reply to your communication I have the honor to designate the following regiments of my division as the ones I desire filled up to their maximum strength: First Wisconsin Cavalry, Second Indiana Cavalry,

Second Michigan Cavalry, Fourth Kentucky Mounted Infantry, Eighth Iowa Cavalry. General Watkins has already made application, which has gone forward, to have the veterans of two Kentucky infantry regiments assigned to the Kentucky regiments of his brigade. I refrain from making any recommendation concerning these regiments until I ascertain what action has been taken upon this application. All the regiments I indicate are veteran organizations, and in every way effective except in point of numbers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. M. McCURK,
Brigadier General, Commanding Division.

EDGEFIELD, TENN., January 8, 1863.

HQ. Brig. Gen. L. B. WATKINS,
Commanding Third Brigade.

As I will not be with the command on the march, you will take command of your brigade, Ex Grange's, and the artillery, and march to Eastport, Miss., in accordance with orders received from corps headquarters. Your best route will be through Columbia, Mount Pleasant, and Waynesborough. I will endeavor to have supplies sent to Clifton, on the Tennessee River, seventeen miles from Waynesborough, so that you can again obtain supplies at that point. From Waynesborough you will take the best road to Eastport, and you will only learn this by inquiry. At Columbia you will put all the forage practicable in the wagons and carry it along, as there is little or no forage in the country through which you have to pass. After leaving Columbia it would probably be better to leave part of your command march on your flanks, if there are any roads running parallel with your line of march, for the purpose of getting forage, which will be scarce on the main road. Have special attention paid to the care of your horses, and try to get them through in the best condition possible. They are in good condition now, and though they must necessarily suffer some on a march of this kind, yet additional care on the part of officers and men will save them much. On your arrival at Eastport, or its vicinity, you will report to Major General Wilson for orders. Eastport is on the other side of the Tennessee; you will strike the river opposite there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. M. McCURK,
Brigadier General, Commanding Division.

HQ. CAVALRY CORPS, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Near Elk River Crossing, on Florence Road,
January 8, 1863—12.30 p. m.

Col. T. J. HARRISON,
Commanding First Brigade, Sixth Division.

Several dispatches having been sent you lately, and none having reached, as far as I can hear, I am anxious to get this to you. A dispatch from General Wood says Lyon crossed at Larkinsville day before yesterday, moving toward the Tennessee River. You need not, therefore, send any reinforcement, but send the Fifth Iowa and

Seventh Ohio, under Colonel Garrard, to Eastport, and go with your battery and the balance of the brigade to Pulaski, whence you will report to General Johnson in person, or if he is not there, by telegraph.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brevet Major-General.

HQ. DEFENSES NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA R. R.,

Tullahoma, January 8, 1865.

Lieut. Col. W. J. CLIFF,

Commanding Fifth Tennessee Volunteer Cavalry:

COLONEL: Send messengers across the country toward Fayetteville to Major Armstrong, and advise him that Lyon's cavalry has crossed the mountains and gone toward Bellefonte, and that it is unnecessary for him to proceed farther in pursuit, but order him to go on in vicinity of Hazel Green, and then scout the country for bushwhackers east to Winchester, and from there to this place. You will move southeast and strike the road between Salem and Winchester, pass south of the latter place, go through Decherd, take all of Couch's mounted men with you, and go in vicinity of Pellham, and east of or through Hillsborough, and try to intercept Hays, who was at latter place yesterday p. m. These latter instructions are not imperative, and you will act upon the best information you can get, after reaching Pellham, as the course to pursue best calculated to accomplish the interception and destruction of Hays. After reaching the road between Salem and Winchester, if you find Hays has crossed through that country, which is possible, you will give pursuit from that point, of course, instead of following instructions, which are only general.

By command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHATTANOOGA, [January] 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM D. WHITTLE,

Chief of Staff, Department of the Cumberland:

I am garrisoning the Chattanooga and Knoxville road as far as London, and the Chattanooga and Atlanta road as far as Dalton, and the Chattanooga and Nashville road to Bridgeport. I can send the troops belonging to the Army of the Tennessee, but will require troops to relieve those belonging to the Army of the Cumberland.

JAS. B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

NASHVILLE, January 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JAMES B. STEEDMAN:

Your telegram of this date is received. The major-general commanding directs that you send the troops of the Army of the Tennessee to General Sherman, relieving [retaining] the troops of the Army of the Cumberland until further orders from the major-general commanding.

ROBT. H. RAMSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE EDOWAH,
Chattanooga, January 8, 1865.

Brigadier-General CRIFF,
Point Hook.

Unless your order to stop on the Huntville road is by direction
Major General Thomas, you will come forward, as previously directed
JAMES H. STEEDMAN,
Major General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE EDOWAH,
Chattanooga, January 8, 1865.

Brigadier-General CRIFF,
Point Hook.

The Seventeenth Colored will proceed to Nashville; the Sixty-eight
New York will stop at Bridgeport. The detachment of the Seventeenth
Army Corps can stop at Stevenson, and await orders to proceed to
Savannah.

JAMES H. STEEDMAN,
Major General.

LAURELHURST, January 8, 1865.

Major General STEEDMAN:

Here with advance of command. On lookout for Lyon.

CHARLES CRIFF,
Brigadier General.

LAURELHURST, January 8, 1865.

Major General STEEDMAN:

Have intelligence that Lyon crossed the mountains last night and is
heading for river near Bellefonte. Can you send a gun boat or two
from Bridgeport, to patrol river from Bellefonte to Gunter's Landing.
Harrison is in search of him near Bellefonte and I will move remain-
der of the command forward river to night.

CHARLES CRIFF,
Brigadier General.

HICKORY, January 8, 1865.

Maj. S. B. Moe,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Colonel Palmer and Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry have arrived
here. They have orders from General Thomas to go to Huntville and
recruit their horses for two weeks.

SAM. M. KNEELAND,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant General.
(In absence of General Granger.)

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH,
Chattanooga, January 8, 1863.

Col. FELIX PR. SALM,

Sixty-eighth New York Volunteers, Bridgeport:

On your arrival at Bridgeport with your regiment you will assume command of the post.

By command of Major-General Steedman:

S. B. MOE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *January 8, 1863.*

Brig. Gen. R. N. CHANDLER,

Decatur:

Yours to Major Polk received. Colonel Thompson's brigade has been ordered to Johnsonville. Do not give them any orders interfering with his.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Brigadier-General.

HUNTSVILLE, *January 8, 1863.*

Major-General STEEDMAN:

Your dispatch received at this place. Colonel Palmer arrived at Decatur on the 6th. Will send my report as soon as possible.

CHAS. R. THOMPSON,
Colonel, &c.

NASHVILLE, *January 8, 1863.*

Col. W. P. LYON,

Huntsville:

General Milroy telegraphs that Lyon's forces crossed the mountain on the road to Bellefonte.

R. H. POLK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HUGHES, FIRST REGIMENT OHIO VOL. HEAVY ARTILLERY,
Near Dandridge, Tenn., January 8, 1863.

Capt. W. P. AMMEN,

Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:

According to the best information I can get, Vaughn is still back as far as vicinity of Greeneville. Some indications point to his moving in this direction. The guerrillas have been very bold in my front, and being remarkably well mounted and many roads, and being without any cavalry, they have the advantage. I sent an expedition by night and took possession of all the fords, and a force in the morning is to follow it up. The fruit was only surprising a squad at Allen's Ford, eleven miles above, killing a Lieutenant Norman, a noted guerrilla,

and one of the worst men in this region, and wounding some others. The guerrillas infesting the country amount in aggregate to probably 150, and are well mounted and very bold. They captured one of my posts yesterday, and thirty strong attacked today's train, but were easily repulsed.

Kirk occupied Newport on morning of the 6th instant; that is the best I have from him. Received communication from Colonel Shannon that on 7th instant he started for Dutch Bottom.

I believe some cavalry could be used to great advantage against the guerrillas; and if I am to stay here any considerable time would respectfully request the assignment of some to my command. I am sorry to report that legitimately and illegitimately the guerrillas have six of my men prisoners, though I hope some of the six have escaped. I have in return only Newman, killed, Hynds, wounded, and four war and three citizen prisoners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. G. HAWLEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Memphis, January 8, 1865.]

[General S. J. T. DANA,
Memphis, Tenn.,]

On the morning of the 30th sent a brigade from Memphis to make a demonstration toward Bolivar, thence to swing northward and join the main column near Ripley. Owing to the heavy rains on that and several days previous, a crossing of the Wolf River could not be effected, and the command returned to Memphis from Raleigh.

On the morning of the 21st moved the entire command—3,300 men—directly east, threatening Corinth. Sent detachments and destroyed the telegraph from Grand Junction toward Corinth and four bridges and the telegraph on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad between Hennyville and Guntown. Moved with main column rapidly on Tupelo; surprised, captured, and dispersed Forrest's camped straggled men on the night of the 25th at Verona. Thence moved south along the line of the railroad, destroying it thoroughly to a point between Egypt and Prairie Station; tapped the wires at Okolona, and intercepted dispatches from Lieut. Gen. Dick Taylor, Major General Gardner, and others, ordering Egypt to be held at all hazards, and indicating that large reinforcements would be sent from Mobile and other points.

On the morning of the 28th attacked the enemy, about 1,300 strong—cavalry, infantry, and one battery of four guns, on platform cars—at Egypt. Two trains with reinforcements, under General Gardner, were in sight when the attack was made. Threw a force between them and the garrison at Egypt; captured and destroyed one train of fourteen cars; tore up the track two miles and a half south of Egypt, and captured and dispersed the garrison at Egypt, after an engagement of two hours. Among the rebels killed was Brigadier General Chabon and several other officers. After securing about 300 prisoners and destroying all captured property, the enemy falling back toward West Point, we swept west and southwest, through Houston and Bellefontaine, to the Mississippi Central Railroad, striking it at Winona. From Houston demonstrations were made southeast toward West Point and north toward Pontotoc. From Bellefontaine made demonstration toward Starkville, threatening again the Mobile and Ohio Railroad.

also sent a detachment to Bankston and destroyed large Government cloth and shoe factories. From Winona sent a detachment to Grenada to destroy the railroad and all Government property on the route and at that point. Sent a brigade south along the line of the railroad to destroy it as far as practicable. This brigade met the enemy at Franklin, four miles west of Goodman Station, and whipped them, killing twenty-five, who were left on the field. Moved the main column, with prisoners, from Winona, via Middleton, Lexington, and Benton, to Vicksburg, arriving at that point with my whole command in good condition, on the 5th of January, with 600 prisoners, about thirty of whom were officers.

The destruction of property is as follows: Forty miles of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, including twenty-five bridges, large amount of trestle work, many miles of track, and telegraph, depots, switches, turntables, and water tanks, thirty miles of the Mississippi Central, including all bridges and the trestle work and the telegraph. Captured and destroyed 300 army wagons, 5,000 stand of new arms, 4 serviceable locomotives and 10 in process of repair, about 100 cars, a pile-driver and engine, machine shops, factories which employed 500 hands for the manufacture of clothing, large amount of cloth, wool, cotton, and leather, 700 head of fat hogs, immense amount of corn and wheat, commissary, quartermaster, and ordnance stores.

Our entire loss during the expedition was about 25 killed and 80 wounded, many of the latter slightly.

The command arrived at Vicksburg as well mounted as when it left Memphis, and with about 600 head of extra stock. About 1,000 negroes joined the column on the march and were taken to Vicksburg.

B. H. GRIFFINSON,

Brigadier-General.

MEMPHIS, January 8, 1865.

(Via Cairo. Received 11th.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS:

The cavalry expedition which left Memphis on December 21 has arrived at Vicksburg. Fifty miles of Mobile and Ohio Railroad destroyed; thirty miles of Mississippi Central Railroad burnt; immense quantities of stores of all kinds have been destroyed. All Hood's communications are now completely cut.

N. J. T. DANA,

Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., January 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,

Washington, D. C.:

Were orders sent to General Thomas to send Schofield's corps to Annapolis as soon as Hood was known to have gone south of Corinth? When started, it would be advisable to have the troops transported on boats, if navigation is not closed, to Wheeling and Parkersburg—one-half to come over the Baltimore and Ohio road, the other over the Pennsylvania Central.

U. S. GRANT,

WASHINGTON, January 9, 1863—9:30 p. m.

Lieutenant General GRANT,

City Point, Va.

Your orders about Schodish's corps were immediately transmitted. As soon as an answer is received, transportation by the most expeditious routes will be ordered. I fear this corps is much scattered. You said nothing in your orders about the artillery.

H. W. HALLECK,

Major General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

Steamer Tacon, Cumberland River, January 9, 1863.

Maj. WILLIAM ALLEN,

Chief Paymaster, Dept. of the Cumberland, Louisville, Ky.

In reply to your communication of the 7th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Fourteenth, and Twentieth Army Corps, with the exception of the Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps, together with the following named artillery, cavalry, and engineer troops, accompanied Major General Sherman's expedition to Savannah:

Artillery: Battery C, First Illinois Artillery; Fifth Wisconsin Battery; Battery I, Second Illinois Artillery; Nineteenth Indiana Battery; Battery E, Pennsylvania Artillery; Battery C, First Ohio Artillery; Battery I, First New York Artillery; Battery M, First New York Artillery.

Cavalry: Third Indiana Cavalry, Second Kentucky Cavalry, Eighth Indiana Cavalry, Sixty-second Illinois Mounted Infantry, Ninth Ohio Cavalry, First Ohio Squadron, First Alabama Cavalry, Ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Tenth Ohio Cavalry, Third Kentucky Cavalry, Fifth Kentucky Cavalry, Ninth Michigan Cavalry, Fifty-eighth [?] Illinois Mounted Infantry, Fifth Ohio Cavalry.

Engineer Troops: First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, Fifty-eighth Indiana Infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Brigadier General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,

Huntsville, Ala., January 9, 1863.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

Nashville:

Your dispatch in regard to Colonel Thompson's brigade just received. I have telegraphed to General Craft to send the brigade to Nashville as soon as possible. It is now with him near Laskinsville. Lyon attacked the little garrison at Scottsborough, and was severely repulsed, and is reported this morning flying southeast to Gunter's Ferry. I have telegraphed General Craft to press him hard against the Tennessee River. I have also telegraphed the commanding officer at Bridgeport to run a force down the river by transports to cut Lyon off, and requested him to communicate the information to Commodore Forrest, with a request

to patrol the river in the neighborhood of Gunter's Ferry, Larkin's Landing, &c., with a view to preventing Lyon from crossing. If my directions are vigorously and promptly carried out, I trust we will give Mr. Lyon a hard time.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

STEVENSON, *January 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-Generals WOOD and GRANGER:

On passing Scottsborough, at 10 a. m. this morning, couriers from Gunter'sville road, southeast of Scottsborough, reported at 8.30 a. m. Lyon was fleeing on the Gunter'sville road toward Gunter's Ferry.

E. HATCH,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 9, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Bridgeport:

Lyon's rebel command was severely repulsed at Scottsborough last night, and is reported this morning flying southeast toward Gunter's Ferry. If you have any transports at Bridgeport, or can get any, by all means move a force down the river and cut him off. We must capture or destroy his force. I will have forces pressed down on his rear. If Commodore Forrest is at Bridgeport, or you can communicate with him, give him this information, and ask him to please patrol all the river in the neighborhood of Gunter's Ferry, Larkin's Landing, &c.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

BRIDGEPORT, *January 9, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. T. J. WOOD:

Your telegram is received. In reply, I have the honor to state that there are no transports at this place. Commodore Forrest is now patrolling the river in the vicinity of Gunter's Ferry and Larkin's Landing.

L. K. BISHOP,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

LARKINSVILLE, *January 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-General WOOD,
Fourth Army Corps:

Colonel Morgan's brigade has arrived. Colonel Thompson's will be sent to Nashville as soon as orders can reach it. It is now in pursuit of Lyon.

CHAS. CRUTT,
Brigadier-General.

LARKINVILLE, *January 9, 1863.*

Major General THOMAS:

Rebel General Lyon's forces struck our post at Scottsborough about dark last evening and commenced our retreat. His advance was resisted by the small guard at that place. The retreat was made in direction of Larkinsville, toward which the enemy were apparently retreating, by Colonel Harrison, Malloy, and Mitchell during the night, and is continued this morning. Damage to railroad nothing.

CHAS. CRUFT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 9, 1863.

Brigadier-General CRUFT:

I have just heard that the rebel force at Lyon attacked Scottsborough yesterday and captured the garrison. It is so strange that you have not reported this fact. It is also strange that you did not render assistance to the garrison, except the few artillery was used within four miles of your headquarters. I suppose you are pursuing Lyon, and hope you will destroy him before he crosses the Tennessee River. Has the road been damaged by the rebels?

H. J. WORTH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

LARKINVILLE, *January 9, 1863.*

Brigadier-General WORTH:

Dispatch received. Lyon's forces attacked at Scottsborough last night. I had Colonel Harrison's brigade at Huntsville, and Colonel Malloy's brigade reached Scottsborough in the time he takes Lyon off and to pursue him all night. I sent Colonel Malloy to Larkin's Ferry in night, and Colonel Thompson right for Huntsville as soon as he arrived. Every available man I had in the field in pursuit of Lyon, and I have just ridden over from the river to make some arrangements here, and will join the command soon. Mitchell is on duty's rear closely and Malloy in supporting distance. They send me the location of Malloy's command and Morgan's brigade from New Market as soon as possible. Lyon is retreating rapidly toward Gunter's Landing, and I hope to prevent his crossing. Your information is untrue in regard to Scottsborough affair. I prepared dispatch to you last night, but by some accident was mislaid. If you have a gun boat at Huntsville, please send to Gunter's Landing. I can not hear of those said to be on river near Bellefonte. No damage to railroad by Lyon, except a few rails, and scarce any to garrison.

CHAS. CRUFT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 9, 1863.

Brigadier-General CRUFT:

I have just received a report of the repulse of Lyon at Scottsborough last night, and that this morning he is flying toward Gunter's Ferry.

Press him hard with your forces against the Tennessee River and capture or destroy him. As you will have an ample force of your own proper command for this work, order Colonel Thompson to proceed with his brigade as rapidly as possible to Nashville; General Thomas so directs it.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier General of Volunteers, Commanding.

LARKINSVILLE, January 9, 1863.

(Received 12.10 a. m. 10th.)

Brigadier General Wood:

My advance brigade is within eleven miles of Gunter'sville; at 3 p. m. enemy about four hours ahead, and retreating very fast. Will you send a mounted force from Huntsville at once to Deposit. In case Lyon goes to the mountains, avoiding Gunter's Landing, he may escape me, and cross at Deposit before I can get up to him. A force to delay him crossing at Deposit for six hours will secure him finally, I think.

CHAS. CRUICK,
Brigadier General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, { HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 7. { *In the Field, Clifton, Tenn.,*
January 9, 1863.

6. The troops will move by boat to Eastport in the following order, viz: Second Division; Third Division; First Division. It is expected that one entire division, with its artillery and baggage train, will be able to move at each trip of the transport fleet. If possible, the division ordnance trains will also accompany their divisions. The artillery and ordnance trains will be loaded upon barges and the baggage wagons upon the steamers, with the troops to which they belong. The movement will commence as soon as the transports arrive, which is expected at daylight to-morrow morning, the 10th instant. Division commanders will make ample details of men to load their artillery and wagons, and will see that the boats are loaded as expeditiously as possible. The transport fleet moves under convoy of the gun-boats. The division commanders will therefore report to Rear-Admiral Leay, U. S. Navy, commanding, as soon as their divisions are embarked, and will move under his orders. On arriving at Eastport, Major-General Couch will disembark his division and take position, in conjunction with Major-General Smith's troops, and will also direct the posting of the other divisions, until the arrival of the major-general commanding.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Clifton, Tenn., January 9, 1863.

Brig. Gen. J. D. Cox,

Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you send one piece of artillery at once to the bank of the river, with directions to the off-

er in charge to stop all boats going up the river. Black cartridge or, if necessary, solid shot, will be fired at the boats, if they do not stop when hailed for the officer in charge.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, CAVALRY BUREAU,

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL,

Washington, D. C., January 9, 1863.

Col. J. C. KELTON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for information of Major General Halleck, Chief of Staff:

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1863.

| Location. | Received. | Issued. | Balance. | Total. |
|--------------|-----------|---------|----------|--------|
| Louisville. | 21,000 | | | 21,000 |
| Saint Louis. | 4,000 | | | 4,000 |
| Lexington. | 4,000 | 3,200 | 800 | 4,800 |
| Total. | 29,000 | 3,200 | 800 | 36,600 |

W. R. PRICE, Major.

The following number of horses were issued to the divisions named at Louisville and Saint Louis:

| Division. | Issued. | On hand. |
|---|---------|----------|
| First Division General McCook's command. | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Second Division General Young's command. | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Fourth Division General F. Johnson's command. | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Fifth Division General H. Johnson's command. | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Sixth Division General Johnson's command. | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Seventh Division General Johnson's command. | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Total. | 29,000 | 29,000 |

The horses, mostly bays, were shipped to and landed at Nashville. Estimated strength of cavalry at present in the army, 10,000.

Before the recent battles there were about 11,000 horses in General Hatch's command, and 1,000 of General Johnson's command went there mounted. The total number on hand and received to December 31 would be 27,811; estimated present strength, 10,000; broken down and lost in action, 8,000. Of these a large number are at Nashville, and are being cared for there and being returned to Louisville for recuperation. The cavalry of this division have been so actively occupied that I have not been able to get any complete reports. They report the proportion of loss in horses has been much greater than in the operations in the Valley.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. REDWOOD PRICE,

Major and Assistant Inspector-General Cavalry Bureau.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES NASHVILLE
AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD,
No. 8. } *Tullahoma, January 9, 1865.*

The Forty-third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry is hereby assigned to the Third Brigade of this command, and will make all reports to Col. W. Krzyzanowski, commanding brigade, headquarters at Stevenson, Ala.

By command of Major-General Milroy:

JNO. O. CRAVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE ETOWAH,
Chattanooga, January 9, 1865.

Brigadier-General ORRICK,
Larkinsville:

Unless detained by orders from Major-General Thomas, you will come here with your command at once, leaving Colonel Malloy with troops of the Army of the Tennessee at Stevenson.

JAMES B. STEEDMAN,
Major-General.

LARKINSVILLE, January 9, 1865.

Major-General STEEDMAN:

Brigadier-General Wood ordered me, on alleged authority from General Thomas, to stop my command, return, and head off or pursue rebel General Lyon's forces. Lyon crossed railway at Scottsborough last night. Malloy drove him off; Harrison and Malloy, Thompson, Hitebell, and Saline are in pursuit, the latter two close on his rear, near Gunter'sville. We may possibly catch him. Have just returned from 11 day and night on road. Will respond to your order promptly as possible. In conflict of orders, it has been difficult to tell what to do, as I have acted on what I supposed to be General Thomas' orders, but you send the pontoon asked from Bridgeport by transports to Smith's Ferry or Gunter's Landing to-night? else I must abandon the result, some of the command being wholly out and no means to apply from here.

CHARLES CRUFT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 9, 1865.

Col. T. J. MORGAN,
Commanding Brigade:

Join General Cruft with your brigade and Malloy's command as soon as possible.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

COLEBURG, KY., *January 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-General EWING,

Louisville, Ky.:

Rebels, from 500 to 600 strong, in Elizabethtown. Send re-enforcements for protection of Government property at this station. They only fifteen men.

A. ANDERSON,

*First Lieut., 30th Ohio Vol. Infy., Acting Assistant Quartermaster.*LEXINGTON, *January 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-General FRY,

Camp Nelson, Ky.:

Send the mounted part of the tenth Kentucky Cavalry, under good officers, to New Haven, Lebanon road, to operate in region of Raywick New Haven, and Hodgenville against guerrillas.

By order of Brigadier-General Hudson:

J. S. RUTHER,

Assistant Adjutant General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

January 10, 1865—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,

City Point:

I will at once send Colonel Parsons to the West, to take charge of the transportation of Schofield's corps. No doubt it will be best to move the whole body by boats from Eastport to Parkersburg, if the navigation allows, and thence by Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to Annapolis. When Hooker's corps went to Tennessee all were moved over that road with great promptness and success. A capital advantage of that line is that it avoids all large towns. If the Ohio River should be frozen they can be moved by rail from Cairo, Evansville, or Jeffersonville to Parkersburg or Bellair, according to circumstances. Your order says nothing about artillery; I think that had better be left behind. If the men are needed they can come and find new batteries and horses here.

C. A. DANA,

*Assistant Secretary of War.*WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 10, 1865—1 p. m.*

Major-General THOMAS,

Nashville:

Please answer in regard to Schofield's corps, where and when it will assemble.

H. W. HALLECK,

Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Nashville, Tenn., January 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Washington;

DEAR GENERAL: I have your note, and am sorry Mrs. D. will not be able to proceed at once to Savannah. She ought to have it, for I cannot go, and most of our means is involved. She has gone East to make the attempt, and she will have seen you before you receive this. Thomas left yesterday for Eastport, where he is concentrating. I saw him on board, and he opened his heart to me. He feels very sore at the rumored intentions to relieve him, and the major-generalcy does not electrize the wound. You know Thomas is morbidly sensitive, and it cut him to the heart to think that it was contemplated to remove him. He does not blame the Secretary, for he said Mr. Stanton was a fair and just man. In bidding him good by, Thomas took occasion to speak again of the department. He said it was the most thorough and complete thing he had ever seen; that it had done everything he could desire for his army, and that you and myself had reasons to be proud of it. I told him that we had tried to sustain the army; that the breaking of the Chattanooga road after Sherman came up, by which we were cut off from the entire transportation concentrated there, as well as the coming of A. J. Smith's corps without a single wagon, have severely taxed the depot; but we have managed to pull through, and though we could not equip his entire army with transportation, we have given it enough to fight and pursue the enemy to the Tennessee River. Eastport is but a temporary depot till he crosses the Tennessee and moves out, when it will be broken up. Thomas now has the fragments of three armies, and they should be concentrated and consolidated into one. The depot at Johnsonville will be re-established. The railroad is badly damaged, and will not reopen before the 10th or 15th of next month. In the meantime the wrecks there should be removed, as they obstruct both channel and levee.

Very truly, yours,

J. L. DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 10, 1865.

Brigadier-General DONALDSON,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Cumberland;

The country adjacent to this place for many miles has been exhausted of forage; consequently to procure it from the country, if indeed it be possible at all, it will be necessary to send a distance varying from twenty to forty miles. To send so far will keep the transportation of the corps so constantly occupied that it will be impossible to recruit the animals, shoe them up, and repair the wagons. I must hence request that you will ship forage to this place to meet a daily consumption of 60,000 pounds; less will not do us.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEATED ARTS: FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Huntsville, Ala., January 10, 1862

Brigadier General WHEELER:

I have the honor to acknowledge the following promotions by brevet of officers of the Fourth Corps:

First, Col. John H. Law, Ninety-seventh Ohio Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, to be brigadier-general brevet, for gallant and meritorious services throughout the Atlanta campaign, for gallantry in the battle of Franklin, on the 30th of November, and in the various conflicts around Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December.

Second, Col. Joseph Conrad, Fiftieth Missouri Volunteers, commanding Third Brigade, Second Division, to be brigadier-general brevet, for gallant and meritorious conduct throughout the Atlanta campaign, and for gallantry in the battle of Franklin, on the 30th of November, and in the several conflicts around the battle of Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December.

Third, Lieut. Col. Robert L. Hambley, Forty-first Ohio Volunteer to be colonel by brevet, for meritorious gallantry and meritorious conduct in the performance of his duties, but especially for gallantry in the assault on Montgomery's Hill, on the 15th of December, and in the assault on the Overton Hill, on the 16th of December.

Fourth, Lieut. Col. Samuel S. Freeman, Sixtieth Ohio Volunteer to be colonel by brevet, for gallant and meritorious conduct in the performance of all his duties, but especially for gallantry in the assault made by his division on the afternoon of the 15th of December, and in other conflicts of the battle of Nashville.

Fifth, Lieut. Col. G. W. Smith, Eighty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, to be colonel by brevet, for gallant conduct and gallantry in the performance of all his duties, but especially for distinguished gallantry during the battle of the battle of Franklin, on the 30th of November when at a most critical moment he aided much by his exertions in saving the day, and for gallantry and good conduct in the various conflicts on the 15th and 16th of December around Nashville.

Sixth, Lieut. Col. J. M. Fullerton, senior assistant adjutant-general on duty with the Fourth Army Corps, to be colonel by brevet, for zealous, intelligent, faithful, and efficient performance of his duty, and for most valuable services and distinguished personal gallantry in the field, especially displayed in the battle of Franklin, on the 30th of November, and in the several conflicts of the battle fought in the vicinity of Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December.

Seventh, Lieut. Col. W. H. Greenwald, Inspector of the Fourth Army Corps, to be colonel by brevet, for zealous, faithful, and intelligent performance of his duty, and for great personal gallantry and efficiency on the field of battle, particularly exhibited in the battle of Franklin, on the 30th of November, and in the battle of Nashville, on the 15th and 16th of December.

Eighth, Maj. A. R. Z. Dawson, Fifteenth Ohio, chief of outpost pickets, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet, for the most faithful, zealous, useful, and intelligent performance of duty, and for the highest personal gallantry displayed in the most distinguished manner in the various conflicts and assaults of the battle of Nashville. In the assault on the Overton Hill, on the 16th of December, Major Dawson was

wounded, but did not leave the field. He participated in the grand and successful assault later in the day and in the pursuit, continued more than 100 miles.

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CLAYSVILLE, OPPOSITE GUNTER'S LANDING,
January 10, 1865. (Via Larkinsville 11th.)

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood, *Huntsville, Ala.:*

Head of column reached here at 2 p. m.; drove in small party of rebels. The main force left here this morning, breaking into small squads and taking to the woods and mountains. Citizens report General Lyon to have crossed river personally last night by boat, and to have got the piece of artillery over. A few rebels got across during last night at Law's Ferry, and some twenty here. A brigade was pushed to Deposit this afternoon; I have got one at Law's Ferry; and heavy patrol parties through woods in each vicinity seeking for rebel squads. Lyon's command was thinly mounted, and could easily keep out of way of infantry. He had with him somewhat over 500 men and one piece of artillery, an ambulance, and a wagon. Citizens report that rebels have abjured the hope of being allowed to cross above Shoals, and are making in that direction in parties, and that not more than 200 left here in an organization. General Lyon had one captain and three men badly wounded in the Scottsborough affair, but brought them off. In case I learn from Colonel Sabin, at Deposit, during night that rebels are still running in direction indicated, and keep the start they have, the farther pursuit will probably be abandoned at Paint Rock Creek. The whole country is flooded, and infantry can hardly march. I think Lyon's command will hardly be concentrated this side the river now. The gun boats have alarmed the rebels much by firing at them during the day.

CHAS. CRUFT,
Brigadier-General.

(Copy to Major-General Steedman.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Clifton, Tenn., January 10, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. F. HOYN, *Chief Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:*

COLONEL: The major general commanding directs that you move the train of wagons ordered some time since from Kentucky to stop at Louisville and await orders there. He desires you will also procure eight yards blue hunting, six yards white, and four yards red, to repair headquarters flags with, and send them forward by the first opportunity. Lieutenant Washburn is North, and can bring them, if you can see him. I wish him to bring three wall and one hospital tent for these headquarters.

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Eastport, Miss., January 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS, *Commanding in the Field:*

I arrived here yesterday with all my command, except twelve companies guarding my transportation to Savannah. I have a good posi-

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